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THE NONCONFORMIST.

"The dissidence of dissent and the protestantism of the protestant religion."

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Eccliaſtical Affairs.

ETHICS OF NONCONFORMITY.

No. II.

THE RENUNCIATION.

LOUDLY as we vaunt, at times, our intelligence—proudly as we assert our moral freedom—it is amazing to how great an extent we are the blind agents of a superior will, and how, as mere mechanical instruments, we are, in a course of unconscious and unreasoning activity, developing results and working out great mental problems, the reach and application of which we have never glanced at, even from afar. At best, we are but servants; and the significance of our several actions, and all the consequences wrapped up in them, are usually as profound a secret to ourselves as are the contents of a sealed letter to him who bears it from his master's hand to its appointed destination. What a wondrous and astounding revelation would that be, were some friendly spirit to withdraw, for a moment, the slide of our own ignorance, and bid us look at the uncovered mechanism, the intellectual and spiritual clock-work, of this our world! Could we but comprehend the one great design of its Author, and trace the relation of part to part, and observe the portion of work done by every lever, chain, wheel, cog, there and then in motion—could we distinctly mark our own position in the intricate and complicated assemblage of moral forces, and discern the real significance of every act of ours, and follow it, in its long series of consequences, as it tells upon surrounding minds—originating, impelling, checking, or modifying, the several movements of each—in short, could we, with the eye of Him who made us, see all that is comprised in "what we are" and in "what we are doing," what a strangely different estimate should we form of duty, and how much larger and more elevated would be our system of "ethics."

We are blind agents, for the most part—but our dimness of vision results not altogether from the structural limitation of our faculties. We are ourselves to blame to a much higher degree than we are wont to suspect. The thick film which overcasts the eye of our mind, and shuts us in to intellectual darkness, is none of the original arrangement of nature—it is a superinduction from indolence—a concretion produced by the excessive indulgence of the sensual class of appetites and tastes. Proper habits of thought, and regularity of mental discipline, do much to render our sight clear and penetrating. Were we to look oftener, we should discover more. Not wholly need we be uncognisant of the significance of our own actions—no invincible necessity precludes us from gaining, if not complete, yet large views of our special position and its several bearings. And, as the attainment is possible, so, in order to the satisfactoriness of our present inquiry, it is indispensable. Until we know what we are, as dissenters, we cannot ascertain with precision what, as such, we should do. Dissent is a sort of primordial act—an act which, whether observed or not, totally changes a man's moral orbit. And it is imperatively requisite that we should look upon it in its essential simplicity and dignity of meaning, before we attempt to illustrate its peculiar obligations.

There is the greater necessity for taking this

preliminary step forasmuch as few, very few, have cast the thing into the crucible of thought to disengage it from the rubbish by which it is accidentally environed. Dissent passes with most men as a very trivial act—inherently and irremediably vulgar—unsuited to any but small minds—having in it nothing of the lofty, the generous, the magnanimous, or the good. And it may be true enough that, viewed in connection with the motives which originate it, and with the modes in which it is expressed, it is far oftener associated with meanness than a lover of his kind could wish. But the act itself, apart from all which may have led to or may follow it—the thing done, irrespectively of the doer—is, in our judgment, one of the very noblest, grandest, most full-meaning, most illustrious positions which it is possible for the human mind to take. It may be taken by thoughtlessness—it may be taken unworthily—hypocrites may take it, and so may fools—nevertheless it is a right glorious elevation on which for man to stand—and if, perchance, he knows not where he is, so much the worse for him, but it remains unaltered.

What, then, is dissent? What is it, viewed *per se*? It is a formal, practical renunciation of intellectual and moral servitude—the act wherein one stands up in the presence of opposing authority and calmly declares, "I am a man." It is mind asserting its native claim to independence, and, whilst it reverently bows before the throne of the Supreme, and pays its homage there, expressing its determination to acknowledge no usurper. It is a stern protest against the pride and the presumption which would set up for themselves a dominion where none but God can rule—a blow struck for the dignity of human nature—a maintenance of the common rights made over to us as heirs of immortality. It looks royal and ecclesiastical imperiousness in the face and says, "This mind is not for you—nor, at your demand, are its prerogatives to be ceded, or its convictions tampered with. It sees in you no essential superiority—it owes you no responsibility. Born free, it will surrender its high birthright to no empty assumptions. Go elsewhere with your decrees—your threats and bribes—this mind is not for you, but for truth only!" This is dissent—thus much it signifies—nothing less than this is folded up in the act.

Nothing less—but such as it is, it may be seen in a yet more advantageous light. This simple "No," which dissent utters, see, now, to what and to whom it is addressed. The idol renounced—the spirit at whose shrine you are bidden to bow the knee—the power which lays upon you its haughty mandate in that word, "Conform"—is no every-day pretender. It pleads a high prescription in its favour. It is encompassed by this world's respectability. Nobles are, to a man, its votaries—honour and wealth its portion. Literature owns its sway—learning acknowledges and enforces its claims—wit commonly sides with it—and, until very recently, public opinion followed it, and shouted to the skies on its behalf, "Live—live for ever!" If no longer armed with the power of life and death, it is scarcely the less formidable. Still it speaks with all the full-toned authoritativeness with which this world's partiality can clothe it—and whatever there is among men which can add gravity to a command, or give brilliancy to a temptation, is cast into the scale with that one word, "Conform." Dissent is a renunciation of it all. It is a quiet negative given to the whole court of obsequious myrmidons. Prescription, respectability, learning, wealth, rank, wit, power, public opinion—it turns from the open-mouthed clamour of all, and, kneeling at the feet of truth, says, "I pay my allegiance here." What higher, what more becoming, what more magnanimous position can human nature take?

The deep meaning and significance of the act indicated by the term dissent, it were well if all who practise it would strive to understand—well were it, if, by frequent reflection and self-communion, men did but partially penetrate the mystery of what it is they do, when they profess themselves dissenters. They occupy high ground, if they did but know it. There is a glorious vocation if they did but appreciate it. But, assuredly, this knowledge and appreciation both of what they are, and of what they are doing, must lay at the very foundation of "the ethics of nonconformity." Our peculiar obligations spring out of our peculiar position, derive all their force from it, owe all their

congruity to it. "Ought" is but one modification of the verb "to be"—duty, an inference from what we are.

SUNDAY TRADING—SHOULD IT BE PUT DOWN BY LAW?

WE are urgently requested by a respected correspondent to state our opinion upon legislative and magisterial efforts to prevent Sunday trading, and the grounds upon which that opinion rests. We have much pleasure in acceding to his solicitation, regretting only that, within the compass of a single article, it is impossible to do full justice to the question.

Laws for the better observance of the Lord's day are justified by those who abet them on one of two grounds—the first, that the Christian Sabbath is a divine institution, and ought, as such, to be maintained by the civil ruler—the second, that it is productive of highly important social benefits, and may, consequently, with great propriety, be taken under cognisance by the worldly magistrate. The premises we fully admit—the inferences drawn from them we as fully deny.

The last question it will be scarcely worth while, on the present occasion, to argue. It is a purely theoretical one. The laws now in force for the better observance of the Lord's day are uniformly based on the assumption that it is a religious institution—and the parties who are anxious to increase the stringency of their provisions, or to enforce their penalties with greater decision, are so, mainly, on religious grounds. Some of them, it is true, perceiving the inconsistency of the demands they make with their avowed principles as dissenters, urge in support of them the civil advantages which result from a day of rest. We apprehend, however, that, in most cases, these advantages are put forward as a justification of conduct, not as the primary object of it. Be this as it may, the object of the great majority of those who insist upon magisterial interference in this matter is a religious one. They are shocked at the awful desecration of the Sabbath—they regard it, as in truth it is, as fearfully inimical to the triumphs of Christianity—they see conscientious observers of it placed at disadvantage by the reckless cupidity of competing neighbours—their moral sensibilities are wounded by the sights and sounds which on every hand meet their senses—and they cannot but think that the intervention of the civil power is imperiously called for by so lamentable a state of things. It is the feeling, rather than the reason, of this class of persons that we are disposed to meet—reserving to ourselves the right, should we be so inclined, to deal with the more plausible, but also more speculative, aspect of the question hereafter.

Nothing could be more ridiculous, we think, than to waste our own time and our readers' patience by opening up afresh the question of the legitimate province of civil authority. Our views on this subject—views which we have largely developed—are decisive of the matter in hand, at least in our own judgment. We shall restrict ourselves, therefore, to such remarks as we conceive adapted to meet this special case. Civil authority interposed to promote a better observance of the Lord's day we believe to be productive of extensive harm—harm to the community at large—harm to the conscientious portion of it—and irreparable harm to the character of Christianity.

We apprehend that the best interests of the community at large sustain incalculable damage from any such interference. Irreligion, contagious as its influence, is far more efficiently to be met and counteracted when it shows itself in all its hideous and disgusting features upon the surface of society, than when it is driven out of sight by coercive appliances. Law cannot alter the hearts of men; and, whilst the disposition remains unchanged, law can only affect the mode of its gratification. It is distressing enough, undoubtedly, to all well-regulated minds to witness the numerous evidences of impiety which obtrude themselves on every Lord's day. But, inasmuch as the impiety exists, it would be a serious evil to banish it from sight. The very distress which its exhibition excites, like the pain caused by a gathering or a wound, is one of those providential arrangements whereby due attention to an existing evil is invariably secured. Could we by law suppress all Sunday trading, could we put an end to Sunday excursions by railway or by steamboat—could we

thereby produce an outwardly decent observance of the sabbath—we should still leave in society precisely the same amount of irreligion, but not the same strong inducements to counteract it. The pious portion of the community would be lulled to inactivity by a mere illusion. Let the whole mischief come out and show itself—let the church be distressed beyond bearing—and what will be the result? Why, that the church will awake to its responsibility, and, by a vigorous and persevering application of the moral remedies entrusted to it for use, will gradually subdue the evil complained of. Nothing can be more mischievous than the attempt to banish irreligion to dark alleys and unfrequented courts. Heaped together in such places it becomes putrid and still more virulently infectious, and at length breaks out in an appalling plague of immorality. There is no short cut to universal piety. Christians may be impatient at the slow progress of moral and spiritual remedies in subduing an evil; but they may be assured that magisterial appliances will not hasten the cure.

"But," say some, "has not a conscientious and devout man a claim upon the law's protection? His religious principles forbid his desecrating the sabbath by trading, and it is unfair that he should be subjected to worldly ruin because his neighbours choose to set at nought all spiritual restraint." Now, really, the protection desired is somewhat tyrannical, and the desire of it indicates sad laxity of principle. If A thinks a certain course required by his religious convictions, by all means let him follow it—but he has no right to compel B to follow it too, lest he, A, should suffer in his temporal circumstances. Men who submit to Christianity must take it, and take it cheerfully, with all the present disadvantages it may entail. These disadvantages are the proper and appointed tests of their sincerity. We cannot be devout, and enjoy, at the same rate as those who are indecent, the favours of the world. Obedience to conscience is its own reward, and is promised no other. He who would be a consistent disciple of truth must not expect to stand in all worldly respects upon the same footing as he who cares nothing for it. Opinion, fashion, custom, will be against him. Is he also to be forcibly protected from these? Is the civil magistrate to be sent before him, to clear his path to heaven of all sharp stones, and still sharper thorns? Pooh! pooh! religion is meant to be a warfare—and they had better not enter upon it at all, who wish the civil ruler to do all the fighting for them. Could they have their wish, they would only settle down into sleek evangelical voluptuaries.

The harm done to the character of Christianity by all such attempts as those now under consideration is, perhaps, the most lamentable of all. Religion has, in consequence, come to be utterly misunderstood. It is regarded too generally as a something *ab extra* instead of *ab intra*—as a thing to be done, rather than a state of mind to be cultivated—as a bundle of external rites, rather than a *tout ensemble* of living principles. Hence the very common misdirection of the energies and the talents of truly good men. They forget that it is by "the foolishness of preaching" that the world is to be made better. They adopt all manner of expedients, which turn out in the end to be worse than failures—and it is to be feared, that nothing but repeated disappointments and mortifications will open their eyes to the obvious conclusion that the diffusion of sound truth by all legitimate methods is the only effectual antidote to the depravity of human nature.

SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE.

PUBLIC MEETING AT LEEDS.

(Abridged from the *Leeds Times*.)

A public meeting was held on Wednesday evening last, in the chapel of the Wesleyan Association Methodists, Lady Lane, Leeds, for the purpose of hearing a report from the delegates appointed from Leeds to attend the Anti-state-church Conference, recently held at London. No formal report was presented, but during the evening some information was given by the respective speakers, bearing upon the nature, the constitution, and the proceedings of the late Anti-state-church Conference. Mr J. Peters, minister of the Wesleyan Association, occupied the chair.

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the business of the meeting, explained his reasons for taking part in its proceedings, and declared that he did so because he was a dissenter—a dissenter upon the old nonconformist model, and that he repelled the principle of a religious establishment as unjust, unscriptural, and anti-Christian. He had removed all the distance from the establishment which her grasp permitted him, and that he was not further from her was because she would not permit him to be so. In his opinion the signs of the times were peculiarly auspicious for the great movement which they had commenced, and he did hope that the blessing of God would rest upon their labours [hear, hear]. He was anxious that their friends of the established church should not misunderstand them. They were not there to battle with the church as a religious body; they were there to battle with the church as by law established, and so far as she was established; and when she became disestablished, and stood upon a footing of perfect equality with themselves, their battle with the church was at a close [applause].

Mr W. H. GLOVER, in a speech consisting for the most part of comments on the late Conference, moved the first resolution:—

"That the alliance of the church with the state is in direct opposition to the rights of our Lord Jesus Christ, the only head of the church—inimical to the harmonious co-operation of Christians, adverse to the spread of pure and undefiled religion at home and abroad, and detrimental to personal piety. Therefore, this meeting has heard with pleasure of the proceedings of the Anti-state-church Conference, and pledges itself by all lawful, peaceable, and constitutional means, to seek the complete separation of the church from the state."

He called upon every man who had at heart the interests of pure and undefiled religion, to assist them in this important matter. A portion of the guilt of all the evils connected with the state church, the premiums that it held out to hypocrisy, the injustice and oppression that it entailed upon the community, rested upon the man who, being able to do something, did not do all that in him lay, to put a prompt and decided extinction upon the unholy alliance of church and state [applause].

Mr SWANN seconded the resolution, which, on being put to the meeting, was carried unanimously.

Mr JAMES RICHARDSON then proposed the following resolution:—

"That, in the opinion of this meeting, the alliance of the church with the state is opposed to the civil rights of the people, and calculated to promote war, oppression, and injustice. In particular, that alliance is the most prominent cause of the political struggle now unhappily commenced in the kingdom of Ireland, producing divisions and dissensions of a most alarming character amongst the people, and imminent danger to the united empire; and that the total abandonment of that alliance, and the establishment of religious equality, in principle and in practice, in Ireland, is the master remedy, which must be resorted to if Ireland is to remain much longer in political union with Great Britain."

After entering into details relative to the late conference, Mr Richardson adverted at some length to the ecclesiastical condition of Ireland, the injustice done to the great mass of the population by the maintenance of a protestant establishment, and to the proposals of the whig leaders to subsidise the Roman catholic clergy.

Mr J. E. GILES, baptist minister, on coming forward to second the resolution, was received with loud cheers. He congratulated the Chairman and himself upon the spot on which they were assembled on that occasion. He had ever, in consequence of the kindness, and Christian courtesy, and respect, which he had received from their denomination, ascribed to them a very large amount of all that was liberal in thought and feeling; but he knew not how it had been—but he had sometimes been led to suspect, and he believed, from what he had heard that night, that his suspicions were not altogether unfounded, that that liberality had been rather too much under the restraint, as in other denominations, of expediency; and if, three years ago, any person had told him that, in the year of our Lord 1844, they would assemble in a methodist chapel, for the purpose of procuring the complete, entire, and eternal separation of church and state, he should have been led to look upon that person as a prophet who, in the brightness of his visions, had lost his wits [laughter and cheers]. There, however, they were, and he for one felt it good to be there; and, although on some accounts, and amongst others for the purpose of securing the attendance of the Society of Friends, and other parties who had objections to meeting together in a chapel, he might have been desirous of meeting together on some neutral spot, yet he looked upon their assembling there as a proof that their principles were spreading, that they were getting firm hold upon the hearts of their several congregations, and that the time was not far distant when shoulder to shoulder, and foot to foot, all honest nonconformists would march forward to secure the triumph of their principles, which must come, which should come, for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it [loud cheers]. It was said John Wesley was not a dissenter. Why, he was the most radical, upside-down dissenter that the history of the church presented. He ran much further away from the church and its mode of worship than they did, and, though he did not call himself a dissenter, he was one [hear, hear]. Take the book which contained the record of the proceedings of the Anti-state-church Conference, and let the most captious critic read it from beginning to end, and he must come to the conclusion that their aim and end was peace—that peace they were seeking, and peace they would have—and when they had got peace, that they were determined to maintain it, so that none should snatch it out of their hands again. Was it that the men engaged in this work had ever resorted to anything like violence? Look back to their history. He (Mr G.) had been in that town eight years, and, as he had been looked upon as a prominent mover in the business, because others, who ought to have been leaders, had stood aloof, let the history of his own movements be looked back upon, and when would they ever find that he was on the side of war, or violence, or tyranny [cries of "Never"]. He had been on the side of the people, of the oppressed, the wretched, the destitute, and the downtrodden [enthusiastic applause]. He was so still. He might be the tyrant's victim, but the tyrant's tool he would never be [applause]. How, then, were they to account for these things? How! They were easily to be accounted for. Such was the power of Antichrist over society in this country, that the very brains and hearts of Englishmen were turned upside down. They had been accustomed so long to go to the parish conventicle, and say word for word, amen for amen, after the parish priest, that they imagined they must do so in every walk of life; and hence, when the parish priest cried "political," "political" cried the great mob of dissenters and methodists [laughter, and hear, hear]. Hence it was that in all societies they found the wolf in sheep's clothing, dandled and caressed, and fondled as a mere innocent, a creature without teeth, while the lambs were worried, even by the sheep, as disturbers

of the public peace [applause]. Since he had last the pleasure of seeing his dear brother, the chairman, he had been very near eternity, and shut up in solitude with God and his Bible; he had had many an opportunity, in the solemn anticipation of death, and of appearing before the Great Judge, whose sentence was to decide their destiny, to review over and over again the objects of this society. What had been the result of that examination? It was only this; that he had to mourn, before God, that he had not been more faithful and more assiduous in the work than he had hitherto been. Though not the most backward in the work, yet if his conscience could have accused him of being wholly negligent in it, he told them honestly, now that he had just come out of those scenes, he should have quailed before the approach of death. If he had any hesitation now in taking a prominent part in these proceedings, it was only because he felt that the influence, and zeal, and abilities of the advocate were so disproportioned to the mighty work. When he looked at the men who accused them of violence, he was overwhelmed with astonishment. Had he ever consecrated flags? [laughter and applause.] Had he ever stood at the head of a regiment, and as he took the rag of silk, the bunting, or whatever it might be, and put it into the hands of the ensign, told him he was never to desert it but with his life—in other words, both to shed his own blood, and the blood of others, in defending it? Had he ever done this? No: but if he had he would have been a lover of peace, a right reverend father in God, as amiable and gentle as a dove [applause]. But he said, let the rag go to the dust, let it be blown to tatters, let the sword be beaten into a ploughshare, and the spear into a pruning hook, and for this he was called a violent man, and a disturber of the peace. He recollected that there was one of the apostles who thought he knew better than his master how to promote religion, and drew a sword in his master's defence. Now they would think from the way in which some people reasoned, that they were all going to be followers of Peter in this respect [hear]. There was a meeting the other day (not indeed of the supporters of the Anti-state-church movement), a meeting of combined churchmen and dissenters, and to say the least of it, he felt bound in honesty as a public man to say, that it was at the imminent risk of bringing this country into a war with France [hear]. At that meeting petitions were signed, and speeches uttered, calling upon our government to give its sanction to an increased naval force, and to demand reparation for our wounded national honour. Did he (Mr G.) attend that meeting? Let him not be mistaken in his allusions to that meeting. He would not palliate, for one moment, the ruffianly conduct of the French. He sympathised with the calamities of the London Missionary Society; he looked upon their work as of the highest importance. Whatever they said, he acknowledged, was said under the greatest possible provocation, and he was willing to make allowances, and would do anything that was consistent with Christian purity to assist them in repairing the evils they had sustained; but when he was accused by these very men of being a violent man, and of using soft arguments and hard words, he did think it right to say that he was not there; the speeches were not made by him [hear, hear]. He never asked for war with France, and he never would ask for war with France [applause]. He would only say that it was the "violent men" who were holding their peace at that time, and it was the "moderate men" who were calling for war [hear, hear]. He said this to show them that in shunning the "violent men" they might run away from peace, and by following the moderate and expedient men, they might rush headlong into war [applause]. After some further observations with respect to the opposition which the movement had had to encounter, Mr Giles concluded by cordially seconding the resolution.

The resolution was then put and carried unanimously.

Mr Fox, independent minister, moved the next resolution, which was as follows:—

"That this meeting rejoices in the formation of the British Anti-state-church Association; cordially approves of the principle on which it is based, and the plans it has promulgated; and advises that all the friends of civil and religious liberty now present do enrol themselves as members."

Mr WADE seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN referred, with pleasure, to a resolution passed at the last annual assembly of the denomination with which he was connected, expressive of concurrence with the views of the British Anti-state-church Conference, and heartily wishing it success. It was stated that individuals might be enrolled at once as members of British Anti-state-church Association, the only contribution required being an annual payment of 1s. to its funds.

After a vote of thanks to the Chairman, the meeting separated at about ten o'clock.

STOKE NEWINGTON CHURCH RATES.—On the 28th ult. another vestry meeting was held for this parish, on the subject of church rates. On a rate being proposed, various amendments were moved; but the Chairman—one the churchwardens, refused to put them. At length Mr Dixon proposed "that the vestry do now adjourn," but this was lost by thirty-six to thirty-four. The rate was then put and carried, and a poll was demanded; the numbers at the close of the poll standing 177 for, 79 against; the church party having made great efforts to secure this number, and the dissenters having, with the exception of the circulation of a bill or two, left their party to act as their consciences prompted them. It is intended to work somewhat vigorously the Anti-rate Association during the ensuing year; and, with the aid of a canvass, it is thought, if a majority cannot

be obtained against the rate, certainly a large minority may. Some rather striking incidents, as relating to the profession of nonconforming principles without the embodiment of them in practice, have occurred during this contest. Many dissenters who had beforetimes not only voted, but had also taken an active part against church rates, were nowhere to be seen; and, when inquired after, it was found they were tired—tired of the trouble and obloquy attaching to opposition. Upon this the following paragraph of a bill was addressed to them:—

"PROTESTANT DISSENTERS! Have you no duty to perform? Are not you called upon to lift up the voice against this great wickedness? Comes not the small still voice to your consciences as you sit at home, while duty—religious duty—calls you to the battle, asking, 'What doest thou here?' Have you heretofore girded on your armour, and do you feel justified in putting it off ere the fight be fought? Were the privileges you now possess won by such conduct as this on the part of your forefathers? And shall not your posterity curse the remembrance of your names, if, through your slothfulness, fetters are riveted on them which years of holy warfare may be necessary to remove?"

"Up, then, and be doing! Dissenters! free-born, freedom-loving dissenters! The command to you is that ye 'go forward'—forward to defend the rights of yourselves and fellow men, and forward to emancipate the truth of God from the degradation into which men now would bring it."

Great offence was given by this: they said it was hard language, and so on. But they have not yet shown it to be unjust—they have not yet shown that idleness on these occasions is the Christian's duty.

CHURCH-RATE AGAIN REFUSED AT LEICESTER.—On Thursday a numerous meeting of the parishioners of St Mary, Leicester, was held in the vestry of the parish church, the Rev. J. Brown, vicar, in the chair; when the chairman stated that the amount required for the salaries of the clerk and sexton, and for repairs of absolute and immediate necessity, was £569; but it was intended to apply to these purposes £221 from a subscription which was in progress, and which now amounted to £1,100, and the parish would be called upon for only £348. The churchwardens, Mr Dalton and Dr Noble, moved that a rate of 6d. in the pound be granted. Mr J. Collier and Mr Gould moved an adjournment for twelve months, which the chairman declined to put, as being, in his opinion, illegal. The motion being put, seven, including the chairman, voted for it, and the rest of the meeting against it. This is the eighth year in which a rate has been refused in this parish. The vicar's fair and courteous conduct, and his expressions of continued respect for those who differed from him, called forth a cordial vote of thanks.—*Chronicle.*

CHURCH RATES, DONCASTER.—On Thursday last a meeting of eleven ratepayers was held in the vestry of the parish church, Doncaster, for the purpose of passing the accounts of the late churchwardens, and granting a rate for the present year. Dr Sharpe, the vicar, having taken the chair, and the various items of expenditure for the past year having been read, including amongst other things washerwoman's bills and sacramental wine—ringers' wages and visitation dinner bills—all of which, if we may believe the worthy doctor and his two churchwardens, were absolutely necessary for the decent worship of God! The accounts were therefore passed. Mr Price, wine merchant and churchwarden, now moved that a rate of threepence in the pound be granted for the current year; and of course Mr Samplough, the vicar's tailor, had great pleasure in seconding the motion. Things had progressed thus far, to the perfect satisfaction of the parson, the wine merchant, and the tailor, when Mr Hastie asked for what purpose Mr Price wanted a 3d. rate. It was usual, said Mr H., for churchwardens to lay an estimate of the proposed expenditure before the parishioners, and he thought that many of them, and himself for one, not being very much enamoured with the impost, it was the least that could be expected, that all the forms of justice should be gone through. He should, therefore, move that this meeting be adjourned for three weeks, in order to allow the churchwardens time to prepare an estimate, and to give the parishioners an opportunity of attending, as he believed nine-tenths of the inhabitants knew nothing about the matter. Mr Cooper, having seconded the amendment, Mr Price admitted he had no estimate prepared, but said, if they would grant him the rate, he would assure them he would have no difficulty in spending it; and as all the last year's items were really necessary, what use was there for him to spend the public money in paying architects? Mr Hastie, however, reminded Mr P. that many of the items could not occur again, and that, as a matter of right, he demanded an estimate before the rate was granted. The vicar and his men, however, knew that they might be put to trouble, if the matter was properly known, and they, therefore, pressed for a division; when there appeared for the rate, 6; for the amendment, 5. The minority protested against the injustice of this conduct, and gave notice that they should resist the payment of the rate.

THE EDINBURGH CHURCHES AND ANNUITY TAX.—At a meeting of the Edinburgh town council, on Tuesday last, Mr Wright brought up the resolutions of which he had formerly given notice, in reference to the city churches and the annuity tax, and concluded by moving—"That it be remitted to the Lord Provost's committee to consult parties with a view to the preparation of the draft of a bill to be introduced in the next session of parliament, founded upon the resolutions, to obtain powers—1st. To sell the ecclesiastical patronage vested to the magistrates and council; 2nd. To place the eighteen city ministers upon fixed stipends; 3rd. To abolish the annuity tax, and to report." A long discussion ensued, which ended in Mr Wright's motion being

carried by a majority of 10 to 7; Baines, Wilkie and Mack, and Councillors Dobson and Neil, declining to vote.

MR WARD'S "IDEAL CHURCH."—STATE OF OXFORD UNIVERSITY.—We have heard it stated, on good authority, that the heads of the university have become seriously alarmed by the appearance of the Rev. Mr Ward's publication, which we noticed last week, but that the heaven has so far possessed the society of Balliol college that no effectual steps can be taken, that society being determined to retain the rev. gentleman as a member at all hazards. The following, then, may be the creed of Balliol college, as expressed by Mr Ward [who is a fellow]. It will harmonise with the opinions of those former members of that society who, from their towers, and roofs, and windows, looked upon the martyr fires kindled in Broad street:—"I know," says Mr Ward, "no single movement in the church, except arianism in the fourth century, which seems to me so wholly destitute of all claims on our sympathy and regard, as the English reformation." "The Lutheran doctrine of justification and the principle of private judgment sink below atheism itself." "That a sustained and vigorous attack on the principles of the reformation is the only course, is my deep and certain conviction." "The church of England is wholly destitute of external notes, and wholly indefensible, as to her position, by external historical ecclesiastical arguments." "When I feel called on to use strong language about the corruption of our church, or the sinfulness of the reformation, the words I use do not even fully express the convictions that are among the very deepest I feel."—*Oxford Chronicle.* [Mr Ward also describes protestantism as "intellectually the subtlest and most extensively poisonous of heresies, just as Lutheranism is morally."] In reference to this production, the *Globe* says:—

Where is the Bishop of Oxford? Mr Ward is also a resident fellow of a college in a university which makes the articles of the church of England the test of membership, and will not part with that test to allow avowed Roman Catholics and protestant dissenters to share in its advantages. Where are the orthodox zealots who raised the insulting clamour against Mr Everett's degree? Where the lusty champions of purity of doctrine, who hounded on Dr Pusey, and Mr Newman, and Mr Sewell, to persecute Dr Hampden, that they have been silent all this while on the subject of Mr Ward's extraordinary production? Do they who strained at Dr Hampden's gnat, bolt Mr Ward's camel?

PUREYISM IN IRELAND.—At a church connected with a large parish and congregation in the north of Ireland, and where the clergyman persisted in the disuse of the gown, &c., not one single person remained to communicate at the last proffered celebration of the Lord's supper.—*Belfast Chronicle.*

SISTERS OF CHARITY.—For the first time since the reformation, the order of the Sisters of Charity has been established in the metropolis. Eight nuns and one novice, from the nunnery in Baggot street, Dublin, have just arrived, under the patronage of the Right Rev. Dr Griffiths, Roman Catholic Archbishop of London, and the Roman Catholic nobility.

CAN RELIGION EXIST IN A COUNTRY WITHOUT A STATE CHURCH?—Let the United States of America reply. The principal religious denominations are—

	Congregations.	Communicants.
Baptists	8,973	628,000
Presbyterians	3,744	355,000
Congregationalists	1,300	150,000
Episcopalians	950	55,247
Roman Catholics	612	
Methodists		906,303
Lutherans	750	52,286
German Calvinists	600	30,000
Dutch Calvinists	197	22,515
Friends	500	
Christians	1,000	150,000

Besides which, there are 15,000 Jews; and a number of menonites, moravians, shakers, unitarians, &c.—*Baptist Herald.*

Correspondence.

LAND ALLOTMENTS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR—May I be allowed to call your attention to the advantages that the adoption of the "allotment system" presents for obtaining a very cheap and efficient education for the children of the poor.

Having successfully resisted the late attempt of government to place education in the hands of the episcopians, surely we are bound to use every means in our power to supply the acknowledged deficiency in a way more consistent with the principles of equity.

No well-founded hope can be indulged, that a system of gratuitous education can ever become general, in the absence of assistance from government. But by the establishment of "agricultural colleges" for the training of schoolmasters, and of "agricultural schools" for the education of youth, the system may be compassed, and little expense incurred.

Seeing that the adoption of the "land allotment system" for the last few years has made rapid progress in the manufacturing as well as the agricultural districts; and having given such general satisfaction, that it is likely to become general through the country; if the nonconformists stand by, indifferent spectators, while others are doing the business, it requires no gift of prophecy to foretell, that not a few of their village schools and congregations will be scattered; many worthy pastors and home missionaries be driven from their posts of usefulness, and have to seek fresh spheres of labour; and in many parishes will be seen that which not a few are labouring for—"an extinction of dissent." I am no alarmist: let good men bestir themselves, and there is nothing to fear; from inactivity the worst of evils may be apprehended.

I am, sir, yours sincerely,

A NONCONFORMIST.

Castle Terrace, Nottingham.

Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

IRISH STATE TRIALS—REVERSAL OF JUDGMENT.

The House of Lords met at ten o'clock on Wednesday to deliver judgment in this important case, when the galleries and other parts accessible to strangers were crowded. The attendance of peers was not numerous, and, for a good part of the morning, Lord Wharncliffe was the only member of the government on the ministerial benches. After disposing of some preliminary business,

The LORD CHANCELLOR moved that the judgment of the court below in this case should be affirmed. When the writ of error was first heard at their lordships' bar, it occurred to him, as no doubt to many of their lordships, that, to avoid all possible suspicion, or pretension of suspicion, of political bias, the assistance of the learned judges should be requested. Those learned persons had patiently given their assistance, and had now delivered their opinion. Except upon one point their opinion was unanimous, and upon that point the dissent of the minority was expressed with much doubt and hesitation. Unless, therefore, their lordships could believe that the opinion of the majority of the judges was founded in palpable error, the judgment of the court below ought to be affirmed. The noble and learned lord then stated the nature of the question. By the law of England a general judgment, notwithstanding any defective count in the indictment, was sufficient. That was the rule in criminal cases, laid down by Lord Mansfield in clear and comprehensive terms. It was concurred in by some of the ablest judges that ever adorned the bench, and, until in this case, he had never heard it questioned. It was stated that the rule applied only to motions in arrest of judgment. He was satisfied that there was no ground for that exception. But it was said that otherwise it could not be shown what portion of the judgment might be awarded in respect of the defective counts. Unless there was proof to the contrary, it must be assumed that the judgment was based upon the valid part of the indictment; but on the face of the record in this case was there any ground for the objection? The judgment was that the party for the "offences aforesaid" be fined and imprisoned. Some of the counts were bad because the offence was not clearly stated. How, then, could it be said that the judgment was based upon those counts which stated no offence? Such a conclusion would be an incongruity and inconsistency which their lordships would not sanction. The same reasoning would apply to those counts upon which the findings had been wrongly entered. They were a nullity. Upon the face of the record, therefore, there was no defect whatever. The noble and learned lord then referred to various authorities in support of that opinion. He therefore called upon their lordships to affirm the opinion of the majority of the learned judges, in opposition to the doubtful and hesitating opinions expressed by two highly-distinguished members of that learned body. The noble and learned lord then moved that the judgment of the court below should be affirmed.

Lord BROUGHAM followed. The majority of the learned judges had, upon the questions relative to the defective counts, given their clear and decided opinion in favour of the validity of the judgment, although given generally upon the indictment. Two learned judges had dissented from that opinion; but Mr Baron Parke was the only one who had entered at length into his objections to it, and even that learned judge had expressed but a doubting and hesitating opinion, and concluded by saying that he doubted whether he ought not to advise their lordships to affirm the question—a very incorrect expression, for the learned judges were there to deliver their opinion, not to offer their advice. In the opinion, however, expressed by the majority upon the point in question, he most entirely concurred. Upon the sixth and seventh counts, upon which the learned judges were unanimous, he could not agree with their opinions, or perhaps he ought, like the learned baron, only to express a doubt of their correctness. The noble lord then entered at length into the consideration of the third and eleventh questions, upon which, as he had stated, his opinion went with the majority of the learned judges. It was said that there was no decision upon the point; but how much of the law rested on the same foundation, for this simple reason, that it was so clear that it could not be questioned? After having referred to the various authorities, the noble lord said he found himself in this predicament:—The learned judges were unanimous on the merits of the case; that a grave offence, punishable by law, had been perpetrated, they agreed: but bad counts happened to be found in the indictment—elaborate and learned arguments had been argued at the bar—the learned judges had deliberated upon them—and seven out of nine had decided against the writ of error upon that objection. From whom, then, were they to take their statement of the law? From the majority, who had given their clear and unhesitating opinion, or from the two who had expressed themselves with doubt and hesitation? There was no dictum in support of the opinion of the latter, and he, therefore, thought it a better course to concur with the majority.

Lord DENMAN opposed the motion. He began by considering the question raised on the challenge to the array:—

I am the more induced to bring forward this point in the first instance, not only because it is a preliminary one in the proceedings, but because I think it an important question—important in so high a degree that it does not admit of exaggeration in regard to the administration of justice throughout the United Kingdom; for, if it be possible that such practices as have in this

case been admitted to have taken place should occur and to pass without remedy—and up to this moment I have heard no other remedy suggested—trial by jury, instead of being a security to the accused, will become a mockery, a delusion, and a snare. The traversers to the indictment in question challenged the array, on the ground that there had been a fraudulent omission of sixty names from the lists of the jurors for the county of the city of Dublin. The Attorney-general demurs to this challenge, admitting at the same time the fact so challenged. It appears to me that the challenge ought to have been allowed.

On this point he differed from all the judges:—

I think the principle of the law, in this respect, is not as they have stated it to be, and that the question is not merely whether the sheriff has done right or wrong, but whether the parties accused had on their trial the security of a lawful jury.

Being a peer, he had not sat in consultation with the other judges, but, struck with the importance of the question, he had written to Mr Justice Coleridge, that he might submit it for consideration; and, although prevented from attending the consultation by sickness which confined him to his room, Mr Justice Coleridge had dictated a reply, extracts of which Lord Denman read. "Taking the facts as stated in the challenge," said the writer, "the recorder had taken no list at all, but a spurious jury list was put forward by some one or other who is unknown; a list was thus transmitted by the recorder to the sheriff, in which the names of certain qualified jurors were entirely omitted," as it was alleged, "fraudulently and with intent to prejudice him (the traverser) on his trial." "Here," said Mr Justice Coleridge, "is confessed a serious wrong;" and the reply that the sheriff was not in fault, and that there were no better materials for a jury, was no answer. "It is far better," he added, "that no trial should be taken than that the court of Queen's Bench at Dublin should submit that suspicions should exist which the knowledge of these facts must inevitably create." Lord Denman differed from those who said that there was no remedy. By recent statute, the responsibility which once rested with the sheriff had devolved upon the officers who now perform the duties—the recorder, the tax-collectors, and others. The recorder's duty is judicial; he has to decide upon the admission or rejection of claims to be inserted in the list, and thus to settle the list which is the basis of the jury book. The complaint in this case, the challenge to this array, was, that after the recorder had exercised his judicial functions—after he had determined what should be the jury list for the ensuing year for the county of the city of Dublin—somebody else said, "That shall not be the list, but this [here Lord Denman tore a piece off a sheet of paper] shall be taken as the list, and from this other list the jury in this case shall be struck." The handing over a perfect list to the recorder by the sheriff is a ministerial act, but that act has been improperly and incorrectly performed. The parties accused ought to be tried out of the book; if the traversers are satisfied with a jury, they will not challenge it; if they are dissatisfied, they will challenge it; and if it be discovered that the proper book has not been returned, then the former book of the preceding year may be resorted to. This is the practice in England, and the law has been assimilated as closely to it in Ireland as the circumstances admitted of being done. Sir Nicholas Tindal said that there must be a remedy; the noble lord on the woolsack said so; but he did not say what the remedy was:—

Now, my lords, if we are to be told there is no remedy existing for this great wrong—if there is no means of preventing it—I must express my opinion that the consequence would be to create the greatest confusion and uncertainty in the proceedings of our criminal courts. But I say, that unless the good old principle recognised by the practice of the courts and the constitution—that, namely, of challenging the array—be still permitted to prevail in all trials involving the criminality of the subject, there will be no security for a fair trial. Nor shall I ever believe that this great and long-recognised remedy for the evils in question does not still exist, until I find that it has been solemnly and deliberately repealed by law. The absence of all other remedy, my lords, proves that this remedy still exists, and is in full vigour: consequently, the challenge to the array ought to have been allowed; and the trial was, in my humble opinion, erroneously suffered to proceed. There is a passage in Coke which fully bears out this view; and I can point out a case in the year book where the case is twice reported, once under the 17th of Edward III, and a second time under the 20th of Edward III, wherein the sheriff having made an erroneous return of a jury list to the bailiff of the hundred, it was argued that the defendant was deprived of his right of challenge as against the bailiff. It was alleged that there were good names enough on the list to form a jury: but it was argued and decided that an error, the omission of one individual, vitiated the whole list; and the proceedings were consequently set aside. In that case, the sheriff was charged with undifferentiatedness; for which he was tried and acquitted.

Out of the 715 names on the Dublin special jury-list, sixty form a very considerable portion of the whole; the persons selected to try the case might have been drawn from these sixty, and might have viewed it in a very different light. Two of the counts were admitted to be bad: he thought that more were so.

"I should be sorry to bind myself by anything that I have heard in this place," observed Lord Denman in passing, "to administer the law in another court upon the ground that a dissatisfaction at a particular state of things, or a desire to effect a change in the law, is an illegal act. I am by no means clear that such may not prove to be very meritorious acts. But it is quite enough for me to assume, upon the authority of my learned brethren, that there are two bad counts."

The question was, could a judgment be sustained upon the whole, notwithstanding those bad counts? He maintained that it could not. It was impossible to assume that the court had not taken into account the bad counts as well as the good; and indeed it

was in direct contradiction to notorious facts. A doubt having been raised as to the legality of such a decision, it was the duty of a court of error to consider whether the doubt was well-founded or not; and Lord Denman cited instances in which cases running over a period of fifty years had been overruled, and in which the lords had differed from the judges—notably in respect to the Irish marriage law, twelve months ago. The whole of the prevalent opinion as to the legality of general judgments in criminal cases rests on a dictum of Lord Mansfield; and undoubtedly it had been considered law in Westminster hall.

If we look at the various columns of the law we shall find them raised on several foundations: a certain portion of their foundations are acts of parliament, a certain portion are decisions of the courts, a certain portion are the dicta of judges, and a certain portion are taken for granted; and there is a great deal that is taken for granted which is no law at all.

Nor was it uniformly the practice to take a verdict on the whole of the counts: his own practice was to point out to the jury what parts they should strike out in certain cases. That course removes all difficulty.

But why is verdict to be taken on all the counts, good and bad? I heard it stated the other day, you have the inconvenience of the judge forming an opinion on the validity of the counts before he proceeds to pass judgment, unless you take this course. I think this no inconvenience. The judge ought to take care that the counts are valid, and I think that great good will arise from that practice; and I do not think that great good can come from those voluminous and unwieldy indictments which are customary. I think that fifty pages of indictment is a great grievance. Most of the persons charged in any indictment are in such a line of life that they cannot afford to get a copy of it; and when the party accused has obtained a copy, the greatest stretch of mind of the most learned man can scarcely find out for days what is the subject-matter of the criminal charge; and it is quite possible that the pleader who drew the indictment had one view in stating the crime, the judge who tried the man another view of the crime as stated, the jury a third, and the court of error a fourth. That is, I think, a great mistake in the practice as to indictments. And as to the practice of the Court of Queen's Bench in this country, it is said that when an objection is taken to a particular count, the court is in the habit of refusing to arrest the judgment on that particular count. Was that the case in the indictment against Mr Feargus O'Connor?

No. After argument on one count, it was condemned: Sir Frederick Pollock withdrew another, as verbose and bad in structure; and judgment was arrested on those two counts. It was said that if the point were allowed, and one count proved to be bad, judgment would be set aside.

So far as the inconvenience goes, it seems to me, that as in the case of damages I have suggested a short and simple mode of getting rid of the whole difficulty, so with regard to several counts in an indictment, the objection may be entirely got over by the Court passing judgment on each count: thus, if found guilty on the first count, the criminal ought to suffer so much, and on the second count being found guilty, he ought to receive such a punishment; and that whether the count turns out to be good or not, that question to be reserved for the future. That is the proper mode."

He proceeded to scrutinise the cases; admitting that they required some explanation, but denying that they bore out the inference put upon them. He should vote against the motion. [The delivery of the judgment of the noble and learned lord appeared to create great sensation in the House.]

Lord COTTENHAM said it required a very great deal of consideration before he could come to the conclusion which he had done, but he felt it his bounden duty to declare that the opinion expressed by the majority of the judges was wrong, and the opinion of the minority of that learned body the true and correct one. Those eminent and learned men were asked for their opinions, and every legitimate weight ought to be given to them; but they were not to guide the House—they were not to rule, but only to assist their lordships in the decision which, as a court of error, they were required to come to. If the opinion of the court below was wrong, then there was no remedy for a wrong of the most monstrous character. That so great a wrong should have no redress he could never agree to. The chief question their lordships had to consider was, whether there was error on the record. That told them that the court below had awarded punishment on all the counts, and how, therefore, could their lordships say that there was no error on that record, seeing that the judges themselves had declared some of those counts to be bad? It was not competent to their lordships to raise the presumption that the judges of the court below had awarded punishment on the good counts alone. It would be a presumption of fact not capable of being upheld, and most dangerous in its constitutional results. In his opinion, therefore, the court below must be held to have been in the wrong. Suppose a person indicted for a libel, some of the counts charging an ordinary libel, others one of a malignant character—that the first counts were held to be good, and the latter ones to be defective, was the party so prosecuted to be punished for a libel of a malignant character? Such, however, would be result if the principle on which the proceedings in the courts below were governed was to be held as a sound and correct one.

Lord CAMPBELL then gave his judgment. He said there were no doubt some good counts in the indictment, and he was satisfied that the plea in abatement was bad in form if not in substance. He thought the Court of Queen's Bench was fully authorised to continue the trial in the vacation, and that the order for that purpose, though conditional, was quite sufficient. He was at first much struck with the objection to the validity of the judgment by reason of the form of the recognisance into which the defendant was required to enter, and he was by

no means free from doubt upon it then, although he was not prepared to say that it would be a sufficient ground for reversal. It must be taken to be part of the sentence pronounced upon the defendant for the offences of which he had been found guilty, and it could not be separated from the finding. The recognisances imposed in this case might lead to perpetual imprisonment. Magna Charta provided that no fine should be imposed upon any party which it was out of his power to pay. The effect of the sentence, in this case, would be, that if the required recognisances were not found, the party would remain in prison for the rest of his life. He felt still more difficulty when he came to the next part of the case—probably the most important part of it, as it was not merely a technical question, but one which affected the administration of justice—he meant the constitution of the jury by whom the defendants were tried. The only question here was, whether the challenge to the array was a remedy which the law allowed. He thought it was, and that the panel ought to have been quashed. With respect to the counts, he thought that an error had been committed by the Court, in passing judgment on the whole together, some of them being bad. The noble and learned lord concluded his observations by saying that he should feel bound to vote for a reversal of the judgment of the court below.

The LORD CHANCELLOR then rose amid profound silence, and said the question for their lordships was whether the judgment of the court below should be reversed or not, and put the question, "that the judgment be reversed"—adding, "as many as are of that opinion will say Content; and on the contrary, Not content."

Three of the law lords, namely Lord COTTENHAM, Lord DENMAN, and Lord CAMPBELL, said "Content." Lord BROUGHAM replied "Not content," and several lay lords made the same response. After a pause,

Lord WHARNCLIFFE rose to address the House, but was reminded that he must do so sitting. His lordship said he had to recommend to those noble lords who were not learned in the law, and who had not had the opportunity of hearing all the facts and argument of the whole case, and were not therefore competent to form a correct judgment upon it, that they should abstain from voting upon that occasion.

It would be far better that the character of this House, as a court of appeal and a court of law, should be maintained, even though the opinion of your lordships should be contrary to that of the judges, and although it should prove inconvenient in this particular instance—it would, I say, under such circumstances, be better to concur in the opinion of the law lords, than reverse the judgment of those whose education and station render them best able to decide upon subjects of this nature.

Lord BROUGHAM (seated with his hat on) said he entirely concurred, and he implored the lay lords to leave the matter as it now stood to the judgment of those learned in the law, believing that by so doing they were preferring a much lesser evil to a much greater one.

After a few words from Lord Campbell, Lord Howard of Effingham, and the Marquis of Clanricarde, who agreed in the propriety of the course recommended by the president of the council, the lay lords withdrew to the space near the throne—the question was again put, and the Lord Chancellor, in a tremulous voice, declared the judgment of the House to be that the sentence of the court below should be reversed.

The decision produced considerable sensation among the strangers below the bar and in the gallery, who instantly hastened out to give expression to their feelings more freely than was possible in the House. The announcement was received outside the House with cheering by a crowd of persons, who appeared in a state of the greatest excitement.

The House proceeded with a number of other appeals, and adjourned about six o'clock.

Thursday, Sept. 5th.

CLOSE OF THE SESSION.

Shortly after one o'clock, the Lords Commissioners—the Lord Chancellor, Lord Wharncliffe, the Duke of Buccleuch, the Duke of Wellington, Earl Delawarr, and the Earl of Dalhousie—took their seats at the foot of the throne. As it was known that the Queen would not prorogue parliament in person, there was little bustle. The Duke of Cambridge and Prince William of Prussia sat near the throne; and a few ladies were on the back benches of the opposition side; but the spectators were not numerous in any part of the House.

The Commons having been conducted to the bar, the Royal assent was given to several bills—namely, the Joint Stock Companies Registration and Regulation bill, the Joint Stock Companies Remedies at Law and in Equity bill, the Joint Stock Banks Regulation bill, the Art Unions bill, the Merchant-seamen bill, the Law Courts (Ireland) bill, and the Fisheries (Ireland) bill.

The Lord CHANCELLOR then read the following speech—

"MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,
"We are commanded by her Majesty, in relieving you from further attendance in parliament, to express to you the warm acknowledgments of her Majesty for the zeal and assiduity with which you have applied yourselves to the discharge of your public duties during a laborious and protracted session. The result has been the completion of many legislative measures calculated to improve the administration of the law, and to promote the public welfare."

"Her Majesty has given her cordial assent to the bill which you presented to her Majesty for regulating the issue of bank notes, and for conferring certain privileges upon the Bank of England for a limited period."

"Her Majesty trusts that these measures will

tend to place the pecuniary transactions of the country upon a sounder basis, without imposing any inconvenient restrictions on commercial credit or enterprise.

"We are directed to inform you that her Majesty continues to receive from her allies, and from all foreign powers, assurances of their friendly disposition.

"Her Majesty has recently been engaged in discussions with the government of the King of the French on events calculated to interrupt the good understanding and friendly relations between this country and France.

"You will rejoice to learn that by the spirit of justice and moderation which has animated the two governments this danger is happily averted.

"GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

"We are commanded by her Majesty to thank you for the readiness with which you have voted the supplies for the service of the year.

"Her Majesty has observed, with the utmost satisfaction, that by the course to which you have steadily adhered in maintaining inviolate the public faith, and inspiring a just confidence in the stability of the national resources, you have been enabled to make a considerable reduction in the annual charge on account of the interest of the national debt.

"MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

"Her Majesty desires us to congratulate you on the improvement which has taken place in the condition of our manufactures and commerce, and on the prospect that, through the bounty of Divine Providence, we shall enjoy the blessing of an abundant harvest.

"Her Majesty rejoices in the belief that, on your return to your several districts, you will find generally prevailing throughout the country a spirit of loyalty and cheerful obedience to the law.

"Her Majesty is confident that these dispositions, so important to the peaceful development of our resources and to our national strength, will be confirmed and encouraged by our presence and example.

"We are commanded by her Majesty to assure you that, when you shall be called upon to resume the discharge of your parliamentary functions, you may place entire reliance on the cordial co-operation of her Majesty in your endeavours to improve the social condition and to promote the happiness and contentment of her people."

The commission for proroguing parliament was read; and the Lord CHANCELLOR declared parliament to be prorogued to Thursday the 10th October next.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

DEBATES.

Thursday, September 5th.

The House of Commons met at half-past twelve o'clock on Thursday, merely to be prorogued; and, while waiting for the summons to hear the prorogation speech, passed the time with some odds and ends of business and discussion.

First, Mr Benbow took the oaths and his seat for Dudley; and a new writ was issued for North Lancashire in the room of Lord Stanley, who had accepted the Chiltern hundreds.

The Earl of JERMYN, in the Windsor uniform, with his wand of office, appeared at the bar, with the Queen's reply to the address of congratulation on the birth of a prince.

A few petitions were presented, a few returns ordered, and a few notices given. Mr THOMAS DUNCOMBE gave notice, that early next session he would call attention to the unsatisfactory and evasive nature of the report by the secret committee on the practice of opening letters at the Post office, with a motion; and that he would introduce a bill to repeal the rate-paying clauses of the Reform act. Mr HAWES gave notice that, next session, he would call attention to the expediency of establishing a system of colonial representation, with the view of securing further responsibility in the administration of colonial affairs, and rendering the union of those dependencies with the mother country more intimate and satisfactory.

RELATIONS WITH FRANCE.

Sir CHARLES NAPIER questioned Sir Robert Peel on the state of our relations with France. After alluding, somewhat indignantly, to the bombardment of defenceless Tangier, and to the possession of Mogador island—the town being *érasé*—he asked whether France had made the reparation that Sir Robert Peel had demanded for the gross outrage on the British consul at Tahiti; and, if not, whether the navy was to be left in the neglected state it had been in so long?

Sir ROBERT PEEL replied—

"I must state, that her Majesty's government have no reason to doubt that the assurances they have received relative to the proceedings taken by the French in Morocco, and on the African coast, will be strictly fulfilled. As to the other events to which the gallant officer has referred, I have to state, that discussions have taken place between this government and the government of the King of the French with regard to events the occurrence of which was calculated to disturb the friendly relations between the two countries. I have the satisfaction of stating that those discussions have been brought to an amicable and satisfactory termination [loud cheers from both sides of the House]. The communications that have passed between the two governments will, of course, at a future period be laid before this House and the country; and I trust I shall not be pressed at the present time for any further statement on that subject."

Mr HINDLEY wished to know Sir Robert's opinion of Mr Pritchard's conduct; which had been much maligned.

Sir ROBERT PEEL repeated, that the discussion

had been brought to a satisfactory termination—satisfactory to both countries; and he hoped that he should not be pressed for any further statement. When he said "satisfactory" termination, of course he meant one perfectly consistent with the interests and honour of this country.

LORD STANLEY—THE STATE TRIALS.

Mr DUNCOMBE recurred to the subject of the writ issued that evening; he wished to know whether it in any way affected Lord Stanley's seat in the cabinet? whether he was still at the head of the colonial department?

Sir ROBERT PEEL—"I have great satisfaction in stating, and I hope the honourable gentleman will derive equal satisfaction from learning the fact, that my noble friend's position in the colonial department is not in the slightest degree affected by the writ which has been moved for" [cheers, and a laugh].

Mr DUNCOMBE testified some annoyance at Sir Robert's facetious manner, and at the laughter elicited by a very proper question; and he turned to another subject—he would move for copies of the opinion of the judges and the judgment of the lords in the case of O'Connell versus the Queen.

With respect to the judgments, he understood that some of them would redound greatly to the credit of the noble and learned lords who delivered them; one in particular—that of Lord Denman—ought to be laid on the table and printed in letters of gold [cheers]. It was recollected what had taken place in this House last session, and all the vapouring there had been about "convicted conspirators," and how the right hon. baronet took credit to himself for having brought the convicted conspirator to condign punishment. Now it proved that he (Mr O'Connell) was no conspirator at all [hear, hear, cheers, oh, and laughter], and that the only conspiracy which had existed was concocted in the Home office, and carried into effect in the Queen's bench, Dublin [cheers, laughter, and cries of "Oh, oh!"]. When he looked at the unfair advantage taken of Mr O'Connell [cheers]—the fraudulent jury list [cheers]—the packing of the jury [cheers]—the partisanship of the judges [cheers]—the employment of the spies and the suborning of the reporters, he felt that the question had ended as it ought to end, in the disgrace of those gentlemen opposite who had engaged in this conspiracy against the due administration of the law and the rights of the Irish people [cheers]. I cannot but condemn in the strongest terms the precipitate manner in which the government have acted in actually imprisoning those gentlemen for three months. I have called the case one of the grossest instances of false imprisonment: from the beginning to the end it has disclosed a vindictive feeling on the part of the government, and party malice against individuals. What reparation was to be made to the Irish people for the gross insult offered to their leaders [cheers]?

Mr OTWAY CAVE seconded the motion; rather deprecating, but imitating, Mr Duncombe's strong language.

When the right honourable baronet, after having tried packed juries and partisan judges, and an attorney general who set the example of taking the law into his own hands, likely to be too well followed by a peasantry apt to admire "the wild justice of revenge"—if, after having tried these and other things but too well known to all who have to do with Ireland, instead of attempting to take a more conciliatory line of policy, he should still persevere in the course indicated by this prosecution, I will tell him and the English people, that (though it is not yet utterly impossible that he may conciliate) he will never re-conquer Ireland.

Sir ROBERT PEEL was reluctant to enter upon a discussion that might be interrupted before he had finished his observations; but at proper opportunities he should be prepared to vindicate the conduct of government. Mr Duncombe seemed to forget that seven out of nine of the English judges affirmed the decision of the court below. As to the accusations about packing juries, he would not by them be provoked into any partial discussion of the subject, but he utterly and emphatically denied the charges implied in the harsh language used. He had no objection to the motion; and the papers should be produced as soon as possible—now, if there were time to send a message to the Lords.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL said a few words; repeating his former opinion, that Mr O'Connell had not had in Ireland a trial which could give an impression of fairness and justice.

If government had appealed only to law, and had given the defendants the full benefit of the trial by jury as administered in this country, no one could have complained of their prosecution, whatever the result. But I think that it was not a trial by a fair jury, but by a jury elaborately put forward for the purpose of conviction, charged by a judge who did not allow any evidence or any considerations in favour of the accused to go to them, but who charged more violently than the attorney-general had accused, and who therefore prevented justice being done. I trust that the effect altogether will be that the recurrence of such trials will be prevented, and that the people of Ireland may feel that they still have the benefit of English institutions—if not in their own country, at least in this; that they will see that there is in the highest quarters in this country, and among those of the highest attainments, a determination to do what they conceive to be justice, on the principle that all the subjects of the United Kingdom should enjoy those inestimable privileges of which we as Englishmen have been so long in the possession.

Sir THOMAS WILDE agreed as to the inconvenience of at present discussing the judgment delivered in the House of Lords; but was proceeding to say "one word as to the effects of this decision on the laws and liberties of the country;" when

The Black Rod entered, and summoned the Commons to the House of Lords.

THE DUNCOMBE TESTIMONIAL.—The Duncombe Testimonial central committee intend closing the subscription on the 27th of November, and have called upon the inhabitants of all the cities, towns, and districts, who have not hitherto formed testimonial committees, to do so forthwith.—*Globe*.

The Complete Suffrage Mobement.

Birmingham, Sept. 9, 1844.

The Council of the National Complete Suffrage Union met at their office, 37, Waterloo street, Birmingham, on Monday, Mr Sturge in the chair.

NORTH LANCASHIRE ELECTION.

The secretary reported that the committee appointed to watch vacancies in the representation, had forwarded an address to the electors of North Lancashire, urging them to support no candidate who would not pledge himself to contend for "full, fair, and free representation," and as a means to obtain this end should take his stand on the principle that "redress of grievances should precede the voting of supplies." The address concluded thus:—"Our single aim is to obtain the elective franchise for about six millions of male citizens above the age of twenty-one. How can we expect to realise this end, if, in any shape, or form, or modification whatever, we encourage the nomination of men, who, if returned to parliament, would in all probability vote against the just rights of the people?"

The council sanctioned the report.

PRINCIPLE AND NOT PARTY.

The secretary read a letter from Edinburgh, enclosing an authentic report of the speech of Dr Ritchie, at the soirée, held there immediately after laying the foundation stone of the monument to the political martyrs of 1792; and mentioned that the publisher would be glad to exchange copies for tracts of the union. He read the following extract as a specimen of the speech:—

"I care no more for the liberal than for the tory interest; for where is the difference between 'the Reform' and 'the Carlton'? Are they not seeking every man his own things, and no man his country's? What cares party, though operatives starve and prisoners perish? It asks not what are the merits of a measure, but who introduced it; and without reading the bill, without hearing the debate, aye, though in another hemisphere, the vote is forthcoming. Did wise men devise such a system—can honest men support it? The Duke may say, 'It has worked well;' so, perhaps, should I have said, had it poured four millions into my pocket. Party and patriotism are as far as the poles asunder. Sir Robert and Lord John have for years been fighting like two bantams; strange that they have not yet discovered that there is a third party—the country—entitled to their regard; astonished am I that the country has not long ago advertised them both of its existence and claims. Is not its name rightly called Issachar? Has it not long stooped between the burdens? Were it not so sad, it is amusing to see how parties are successively made to run the gauntlet. Some time ago the leaguers taxed the suffragists with dividing the liberal interest, because they would not desert their principles, and hoist the leaguers into parliament; and now the whigs are upbraiding the leaguers, because they will not quit the field, and let 'the reform' reach the winning post. I hold that party must be renounced, and principle proclaimed, contended for, and held fast as life. Let every good man, though alone, carry out his principle. What will be the result? Just as with two sincere Christians whom I knew, Robert Wood and his wife Lizzie Patterson; they had both discovered that the kirk they belonged to was not to their mind, but afraid of unduly biasing each other's conscience, they set out at opposite ends of the onstead, and by different roads, and unseen by each other till they both met in the 'Rigg Kirk,' and there pitched their tent; even so, would men judge for themselves, and with their principles proceed to the polling booth—those of the same mind would, as naturally as stone falls and smoke ascends, find their names down for the same candidate. Believing my principles to be true, I assert, then, I expect that honest inquirers will embrace them, my present opponent will come over to me, and thus our minority will honestly become a majority. Such a result may be distant; well, I can 'bide my time.' The tories may be longer in; be it so, I am sorry for it, but their rout, when it comes, will be the more complete, and they will be for ever *hors de combat*. To this it must come; and though politicians may denigrate this simpletonism, it will, because honesty, prove the best policy—to this it is, through force of circumstances, fast hastening."

The reading of this extract called forth frequent marks of approbation, and the council ordered copies to be exchanged.

On the same subject the following important letter was read by the Chairman:—

MY DEAR SIR—I am unknown, and wish to be so, in the political world; but I am an admirer of your political conduct and views, and especially of your going to the poll on the question of equal political rights. May the suffragists do this everywhere! If it became a matter of conscience with them to vote for no man so ignorant (to use the mildest word) of equity, as not to know that his poorest neighbour ought to be politically equal with himself, they will soon command all the principle and integrity of the empire—though quite sure, like the Great Teacher of truth and equity, to be maligned and almost crucified at first. How dissenters can, in the sight of God, vote for a state-churchman, when a main-tainer of the opposite principles is before them, I cannot understand.

The merciful interposition of Providence in the House of Lords in favour of our jury rights, and the liberation, I suppose, of the shamefully maltreated friend of peace, O'Connell, suggests to me the possibility of a new election. I am almost ashamed to suggest, but I would at least ask whether suffragists should not have these four well-defined questions, on a satisfactory answer to all of which their vote should depend.

1. Will you vote for what is understood by universal suffrage?
2. Will you vote for a repeal of the corn laws?
3. Will you vote for equal political rights to Ireland?
4. And, most important of all—Will you oppose voting supplies to the uttermost till these points are conceded?

We must not let the three righteous causes bicker with or be jealous of each other. All righteous causes are lines converging to a common centre, and that centre is the will of God. They cannot cross each other. We should thus include all the great objects of all par-

ties, and we could demand the aid of those we were willing to help, unless they thought the suffrage a greater evil than their respective grievances.

As to the church, though first in importance, its overthrow entirely depends on the success of the suffrage question; so does the army. I therefore, as a business man, should want no ammunition on the bomb-proof edifice, till my cannon had breached the wall, and enabled me to blow it up (you will pardon a military metaphor, by a peace man; our Lord himself used them).

In very great haste,

Yours in sincere esteem,

A TUTOR OF AN INDEPENDENT COLLEGE.
To J. Sturge.

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

Now that the registrations are nearly completed, the Council expressed its intention of taking an early opportunity of addressing the friends of political freedom in favour of starting properly qualified complete suffrage candidates at the forthcoming November elections.

LEICESTER COMPLETE SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION.—At the monthly meeting of this body, on Tuesday evening, it was unanimously resolved:—"That the law of registration, though somewhat improved, is still repugnant to justice and reason, and extremely inconvenient and annoying in its operation; that this arises from the complicated and anomalous character of the qualifications for the franchise; and that complete suffrage would remedy the evil."

MR VINCENT AT GLASGOW.—On Monday and Tuesday evenings in last week, Mr Henry Vincent, under the auspices of the complete suffragists of Glasgow, delivered lectures on the present condition of the country, and the means of its regeneration, to large and attentive audiences, in Dr Beattie's church, Gordon street. On both evenings the audiences were numerous and attentive. James Turner, Esq., of Thrusgrove, occupied the chair on both occasions. Mr Vincent was received with great enthusiasm, and at the close of each lecture received a cordial vote of thanks.

SOIREE IN HONOUR OF MR HENRY VINCENT.

This devoted champion of civil and religious liberty was, on Thursday evening last, entertained to a soiree by a respectable body of complete suffragists, in the Rechabite hall, Ingram street, Glasgow. James Turner, Esq., of Thrusgrove, occupied the chair. After tea, which was provided in Mr Angus's best style, the chairman opened the proceedings in a neat and judicious address, in which he passed a high eulogium upon Mr Vincent for his many good qualities as a man, as a politician, and as an orator. Dr McGibbon next addressed the meeting at some length, and with much ability, on "the moral, mental, and physical elevation of the people." Mr Brown then spoke to the sentiment, that "to be a virtuous, we must first be a sober, people;" after which Mr Vincent rose, and was received with enthusiastic cheering. He commenced by expressing the delight he felt at a meeting like the present, as the means of unlocking something better than thought—their heart's warmest affections—for, whatever might be said of cultivating the moral faculties, they must have a clearer perception of their relation of brotherhood—of their universal oneness—before they could be elevated much in the scale of moral dignity. His feelings, he confessed, when he was in the presence of such a one as their Chairman—who had experienced so many vicissitudes, and who could not now feel the same flush of enthusiasm that first set his own soul on fire—were strangely agitated—a tinge of melancholy passed over him—and, but for the conviction that there was a great supreme controller of events, who would yet bring good out of evil, his heart was ready to sink beneath him, as he remembered the wrongs and sufferings under which mankind has so long suffered. Their country, however, he was persuaded, with all its disadvantages and oppressions, possessed a greater variety of character for working out the principle which had never yet been fully realised elsewhere, namely, the doctrine of human equality; for, notwithstanding the theories and system of other countries, he was certain—and no doubt it would be deemed a piece of egotism—that we had, perhaps, as large a number of men who understood the real principles of liberty as any other country on the face of the earth (tremendous applause). Mr Vincent then proceeded to enforce the necessity of elevating the mental and moral character of the people, and gave a short sketch of his own singular career, as he termed it, from the time of his being an apprentice at Hull, where he first imbibed radical opinions by attending a meeting called to petition against catholic emancipation, till his settlement in London in 1834—his co-operation with William Lovett, on whom he passed a deservedly high eulogium—his participation in the chartist movement, and his subsequent imprisonment [hear]. Mr Vincent next spoke of some of the happy tendencies of the age—of the spread of temperance, of literature, and of the influence of woman, and concluded an eloquent and powerful speech, in the delivery of which he was repeatedly interrupted by the enthusiastic applause of the meeting, by expressing his belief that the day of "the world's speedy redemption from all conceivable kinds of bondage" was speedily approaching—when aristocracy, the last remnant of feudalism, and all its adjuncts, would disappear for ever. Messrs Malcolm M'Farlane, Brown, James Hoey, and other gentlemen, then addressed the meeting on the necessity of the friends of complete suffrage exerting themselves more perseveringly. Mr Vincent thought it desirable they should have an efficient committee to co-operate at elections and to encourage lectures, but especially to raise, in the West of Scotland, a noiseless but honest and useful party. Various suggestions were afterwards made

on the subject by Messrs Hoey, Little, Baird, Stewart of Edinburgh, and others.—*Glasgow Saturday Post.*

KIRKINTILLOCH.—On Friday evening last, a meeting was held in Orr street school room, to hear an address from Mr Henry Vincent on the necessity for, and importance of, complete suffrage, as a means of improving the condition, mentally, morally, and physically, of all classes of society. Mr John Paterson in the chair. The meeting consisted chiefly of working men, who evinced, by their earnest attention and hearty applause, the deep interest they felt in the subject. At the close of the address a vote of thanks was heartily given to Mr Vincent, and the meeting separated in the most orderly manner.—On Saturday evening, Mr Vincent delivered a lecture on the importance of temperance, in Dr Marshall's church. Considerable interest was manifested by the audience, many of whom were ladies, and the sentiments of the lecturer were received in the most cordial manner.—*Glasgow Examiner.*

DEPARTURE OF HER MAJESTY FOR SCOTLAND.

Notwithstanding the unpropitious state of the weather on Monday morning, a large crowd was assembled at Woolwich to witness the Queen's departure for Scotland. The river was studded with small boats and other craft. The dockyard was filled with official persons and others connected with the establishment, together with those who could by favour gain admission, the public in general being excluded on this occasion.

The royal party and suite left Windsor in the morning at half-past six o'clock, and arrived by special train at the Paddington terminus of the Great Western Railway, at about half-past seven; from whence they proceeded in three of her Majesty's private carriages direct to Woolwich. Her Majesty and the Prince were loudly cheered on their arrival, and, on alighting, were met by the Earl of Haddington (the First Lord of the Admiralty), Admiral Bowles, Sir George Murray, Lord Bloomfield, and the several officers of the garrison.

The Earl of Haddington, upon whose arm the Queen leant, conducted her Majesty down the dockyard stairs, which were covered with green cloth for the occasion, to the royal barge. Prince Albert followed, leading the Princess Royal; and the royal party, being seated in the barge, were speedily conveyed on board the Royal Victoria and Albert yacht, which was moored about a gun-shot from the dockyard. On their passage from the dockyard to the steam yacht, the royal party were repeatedly cheered by the company in the various small steamers and other craft in the river, and both her Majesty and Prince Albert acknowledged this expression of loyalty by bowing in return. As the royal barge approached the yacht a royal salute was fired from two field batteries, which were placed on the upper and lower wharfs of the dockyard for the purpose.

At a quarter-past nine o'clock the royal yacht got under way, and, followed by the Black Eagle, Captain the Earl of Hardwick (the other vessels comprising the royal squadron having sailed, some on Sunday, and others at an early hour on Monday morning), proceeded at a rapid rate down the river, accompanied by several of the river steamers. All the vessels in the neighbourhood of Woolwich were decorated with flags, and many of them fired salutes as the royal party passed. Every ship coming up the river and seeing the royal standard flying at the masthead of the yacht, saluted it in the usual manner by dipping their colours, while their crews assembled aft, and cheered her Majesty as the vessels swiftly passed each other.

When near Greenhithe the royal yacht met the Lightning steamer, on its return from Ostend, whither it had conveyed the Prince of Prussia. Prince Albert, almost immediately after his arrival on board the yacht, changed his hat for a naval undress cap, with the gold band round it, which he wore during the day. At ten o'clock the yacht was off Erith. Every steamer proceeding to London, crowded with passengers, as soon as they descried the royal standard at the masthead of the approaching yacht, passed her as closely as possible, and cheered her on her passage. As she approached Gravesend, the fort on the opposite side of the water fired a royal salute. The shores and piers at Rosherville and Gravesend were so densely crowded with the spectators that it appeared as though the whole of the inhabitants of both these places had left their residences to come to the water side to testify their loyalty to their Sovereign as she passed their towns.

Notwithstanding the boasted speed of the Victoria and Albert, she found her match on the present occasion. The Waterman steamer No 12 headed the squadron, No 10 followed immediately in her wake, and the Ariel followed her, while the yacht was astern of the whole of them, and in this position onward they sped, literally flying through the water until they reached the Nore, the vessels increasing their rapid progress. Most persons on board the yacht were surprised at the rapidity of the Thames steamers. When the royal yacht arrived at the Nore, the Ocean, flag-ship at Sheerness, fired a royal salute. There was no man-of-war of any description lying at the Nore. The Black Eagle was not able to keep pace with the Victoria and Albert, and when the latter passed the Nore light she was between three and four miles astern.

The South Western steamer, which accompanied the yacht, bids fair to surpass any steamer yet afloat. She reached Gravesend before any of the others, and left it nearly twenty minutes after them, as she had to take in coal; she overtook them again at the Nore, and passed them all. Some idea of the rapidity with which the royal yacht and her attendant squadron proceeded, may be formed from the time

which she took in reaching the Nore. She left Woolwich at twenty minutes past nine a.m., reached Gravesend at fifty-five past ten, and passed the Nore light at ten minutes past twelve, performing the whole distance from Woolwich to the Nore in two hours and fifty minutes, and from Gravesend to the Nore in one hour and fifteen minutes. About ten o'clock the yacht altered her course to the northward and eastward, and proceeded on her voyage to Scotland.

It is said, the royal squadron will proceed up the Frith of Tay, and anchor off Dundee. In this arrangement her Majesty will afford great cause of congratulation to many thousands of her subjects resident in and connected with that important manufacturing town, and add to her own pleasure by the change of scenery the royal pair will witness on the banks of the Tay. The Princess Alice and the Dwarf steamers are so light in draught of water that there would be no difficulty in proceeding in these steamers as far up the Tay as the fair city of Perth. The royal party would then be within a short distance of Dunkeld, and the braes of Athol, and the beautiful meanderings of the Tay, with the ever-changing and splendid prospects of hills and glens on the banks of this placid river, would afford high gratification to the Queen and Prince Albert, whose admiration of the picturesque scenery and wild beauties of Scotland has inclined them to again visit that highly favoured land.

Lord Glenlyon has placed Blair castle at the disposal of the Queen. The preparations for the reception of her Majesty and the Prince Consort were completed last week. The highlanders who formed her Majesty's body guard during her brief visit to Perthshire, in 1842, are again to be under arms during the royal stay amongst the picturesque hills of Perthshire and the mountain fastnesses of Athol. The younger members of the royal family will remain at Brighton during the Queen's absence.

CHRISTENING OF THE INFANT PRINCE.—The baptism of the infant Prince, second son of her Majesty, took place on Friday in the private chapel at Windsor Castle. The Foreign Ministers, Cabinet Ministers, and others assembled in the red drawing room, and soon after were conducted to seats provided for them in the chapel. The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of Norwich, with the Bishop of Oxford and the Dean of Windsor, assembled in the vestry at six o'clock when the procession of the sponsors for the infant prince was formed. The sponsors were the Duke of Cambridge, proxy for Prince George of Cambridge, and the Duchess of Kent, proxy for the Duchess of Saxe Coburg and Gotha. The Queen, leading the Princess Royal, walked with Prince William of Prussia by her side; Prince Albert was beside the Queen Dowager, and led the Prince of Wales. Then came the rest of the Royal visitors; and lastly, more officers. The Queen wore a white satin dress trimmed with Honiton lace, a diamond tiara on her head, with the insignia of the Garter: the little children were dressed in white satin and lace; the Princes in military uniforms. The service began with Palestrina's "O be joyful." When the music ceased, Prince Albert's Groom of the Stole conducted into the chapel the Dowager Lady Littleton, bearing the Royal infant: who was baptized by the Archbishop; the Duke of Cambridge giving the name—"Alfred-Ernest-Albert." His Royal Highness Prince Alfred was carried out of the chapel to the sound of Handel's Hallelujah chorus from *Judas Maccabeus*. A benediction closed the service, at seven o'clock; and the procession withdrew in the order of its entrance. A state banquet in honour of the event was afterwards given by her Majesty in St George's Hall, which had a magnificent appearance. After dinner, the Queen led the way to the Waterloo Chamber; where a concert was performed of instrumental music by Beethoven, Haydn, Meyerbeer, Spohr, Mendelssohn Bartholdy, and Weber. Spohr's piece was a manuscript symphony, describing the moral career of man—the bright innocence of childhood, the age of passion, and the reign of mature virtue: it was composed for two orchestras, and was performed accordingly, by eleven solo-players in the east gallery, and a numerous orchestra in the west gallery, more than a hundred feet distant; seventy performers in all. Thus the rejoicings terminated.

Postscript.

Wednesday, September 11th.

THE REPEAL ASSOCIATION.

The Conciliation hall, on Monday morning, presented, within and without, such an appearance as it has never yet exhibited since the day upon which it was first opened, immediately after the suppression of the Clontarf meeting last year. Between 8 and 9 o'clock, large crowds of persons, of whom the great majority were decently-dressed women, assembled around the doors, which after a while were thrown open to the accumulating masses, and instantly that portion of the galleries set apart for the humbler members of the Association, as well as the body of the hall, was thronged by the densest assemblage which we ever witnessed within any building. The whole of the large circular gallery presented nothing to the view but a straggling array of caps, bonnets, ribands, and feathers, whilst a pin could not have been let fall to the ground in any part of the hall, so great was the crowd of the associates. The number of persons of both sexes seeking admission increased as the day advanced to such a degree, that the whole of the quay for a considerable distance, at both sides of the building, was completely blocked up, the doors having been closed against all applicants so early as eleven o'clock, and placards to that effect placed against them. The *Times* gives the

following account of the reception of the repeal martyrs:—

"About one o'clock the smaller leaders of the association began to arrive, and to force their way up to the platform. Then came the *dix majors*. First Mr Steel made his appearance, and was greeted with all kinds of complimentary noises. Then Mr Barrett, of the *Pilot*, made his bow amid a similar demonstration. Dr Gray's advent was acknowledged in the same way, and at length, preceded by Messrs Butler, M.P., Grattan, M.P., and accompanied by Mr J. O'Connell, M.P., the hon. member for Cork advanced to the front of the platform, and took up his usual place, amid such a display of feeling, and with such a rapturous welcome, as may rarely be seen again. One storm of cheers, blessings, yelling, and cries in Irish, rose around from every part of the hall, and was echoed by the crowd outside. All the women in the gallery waved their white handkerchiefs (which they seemed to be specially provided with), bonnets, and shawls with astonishing vigour and perseverance; whilst the men were equally energetic with their hats, hands, and feet. For nearly ten minutes cheering and applause, which was not surpassed in intensity either at Tara or Mullaghmast, continued to peal through the hall. Mr O'Connell acknowledged it by repeatedly bowing around him, kissing his hands to the ladies in the gallery, and placing the crown of his hat on his heart. As he was thus engaged, Mr Smith O'Brien rushed to the front of the platform, causing if possible an increase in the clamour, and seizing Mr O'Connell's hand, shook it vigorously for some moments. Mr O'Connell then caught Mr S. O'Brien's hand, and placed it on his heart, whereat the very building trembled and quaked beneath the redoubled cheering and stamping. At last Mr O'Connell seemed to get tired. He opened his lips again and again to speak, but his words were inaudible, until a number of uplifted hands and voices from the platform stilled the storm."

On the motion of Mr O'Connell, the Lord Mayor was called to the chair, and briefly addressed the meeting. Mr T. M. Ray, the Secretary (one of the "martyrs"), followed. Mr O'Connell then proposed the admission of Mr Somerset Butler, M.P. for Kilkenny, as a member of the association. Mr S. O'Brien proposed the Hon. George Hely Hutchinson, brother of Lord Donoughmore; and Mr Grattan, Captain Mockler, of the county of Meath, an orangeman.

Mr O'Connell then addressed the meeting, in a speech which occupies four columns and a half of the *Times*, and displays his wonted talent and energy. He characterised their triumph as "a blessing bestowed by Providence on the faithful people of Ireland." He then pointed out the many benefits resulting from the reversal of the judgment—the vindication of the right of public meeting, of trial by jury, and the right to petition. He reviewed at great length, from their commencement to their close, the state trials, dwelling upon the various points, and exposing the whole proceedings with a force and pungency surpassing all his former addresses on the same topic. He made an *amende* to the whigs for their conduct throughout these trials, and their judicial and other appointments, without which the decision of the judges would not have been reversed. "We owe a debt of gratitude to the whigs for such appointments, and it will be hard to get me to abuse them again [laughter]. We owe them that debt for the principle by which they have been actuated in their selection of judges, and if they had selected bad judges, they would find me assailing them as readily as I now tender them my praise. It is owing to the exclusion of the Tories from power that we have acquired the glory, the honour, and, I will add, the security of the administration of justice, arising from having such distinguished personages on the bench." To the *Morning Chronicle* also they were greatly indebted. To the question, "What are we to do?" he thus replied:—"In answering the question more fully three different subjects arise to my mind. The first relates to the meeting at Clontarf [cheers for some minutes]. That meeting was called legally. It was illegally suppressed [cheers]. We are bound to adhere to principles, and it is now to be considered whether that rule extends so far, or whether it has been sufficiently vindicated without calling the meeting [cheers]. For some time I did think that it was absolutely necessary to call it to vindicate a great principle; but on reflecting deeply on what has occurred in the House of Lords, and the vindication of its legality put on eternal record by Denman [cheers], Cottenham [cheers], and Campbell [cheers], I began to doubt that it was necessary. It might create ill-feeling, and be construed into a wish to insult, and it might alienate friends. What I mean to do is, upon this day week to propose that it be referred to a select committee whether or not it is necessary to hold the Clontarf meeting [cheers]. I do not wish to prejudice their decision, but I must say, that my opinion is against the calling of that meeting. The next point I wish to lay before you is with reference to a plan which I frequently proposed last year [cheers]. I mean the collection of the Preservative society for Ireland, consisting of a body of three hundred gentlemen sitting in Dublin [great applause]. This point is surrounded by legal difficulties, and must be approached with serious considerations, which we were last year prevented from applying to it by the proclamation and subsequent proceedings. My plan, which I have deeply considered, is shortly this—that 300 gentlemen from the various counties in Ireland should meet on a certain day in Dublin [cheers], and that their title to meet should be the handing in of £100 each—that they should have a treasure of their own, and have the working of their own funds [cheers]. I do not intend that they shall initiate anything, but that they shall control everything, and that the Repeal Association shall be completely governed by them, and not venture upon any act without their previous sanction [cheers]. A body of this kind would comprise so many of the wealthy and influential of Ireland, that it would be an effectual check to any rash revolutionary outbreak, and would be a steady drag upon the wheel of the movement. It would be of that bearing on society and high station that it could enter into treaty with government [loud cheers]. It could arrange its own plans with ministers, and stipulate terms [great cheering]. No hand-over-head work, but steady, deliberate agreement [cheers]. And here let me say that I quite agree in making the experiment of a

federal parliament. I want any parliament which will protect Ireland, and ask for no more. If we arrive at the period of repeal without some body of this description, government may dictate a plan to you, perhaps, which may fall short of justice, though it satisfy some of you. They can never do so with this Preservative Society of three hundred [cheers]. The terms of any treaty must be well considered—financial as well as political; and it seems to me that we shall here have the workmen to build up the palace of justice to Ireland [loud cheers]. I will this day week move for a select committee, to consider the possibility of such an assemblage, and to prepare cases to have laid before the most eminent lawyers of England and Ireland [cheers]. We will take care not to bring a single individual within the power of the law, and we will see whether we cannot get a second managing body for the people—not a House of Lords, indeed, but a body possessing more power, as representing the whole Irish people [cheers]. Three hundred wealthy Irish gentlemen would make such a body as would bring about the repeal of the union with the greatest ease. I am not a person of overweening confidence in my own judgment, but I have so matured this plan in my own mind, whilst in prison, that I rely strongly on it, although prepared to abandon it on the instant, if found to be at all dangerous or impracticable [cheers]; whilst it must be embraced, if found calculated to bring back our parliament to College Green [loud cheers]. I have addressed you at great length, but I owed you for three months' rent [much cheering and laughter]. I am now, like an honest man, paying my debts [renewed laughter]. And now I come to my third plan, and it is one to which I am greatly attached. I want to procure impeachments of the judges at the court of Queen's Bench, and of her Majesty's Attorney-general in this country; on these grounds [great applause for some moments]—on these grounds, I repeat, which I shall set before you, as briefly as I can consistently with clearness." These he proceeded to state at length. "From this spot I call on England to join me. I mean to propose that a select committee be formed, of which I shall cheerfully make one, to go through all the principal towns of England about two months before the meeting of parliament, to obtain an answer to this appeal. We will say, 'Here is injustice done. A packed jury, an unjust judgment, sentence inflicted before its right is ascertained, and innocent men imprisoned. Englishmen, I will test you; I will see whether you will join me, one and all. If not, I will come back and say to my countrymen, 'Look no more to the pretences of John Bull; look alone to your parliament in College Green' [cheers]. If they do not approve of this, I will go at any rate. Curiosity to see the lion who had been caged for three months would bring many together, and collect crowds around me; and I look forward to success."

After some rather unmeasured abuse of Sir James Graham and Sir R. Peel, and a vindication of Mr Sheil, Mr O'Connell resumed his seat amid applause nearly as protracted and quite as enthusiastic as that which greeted his opening address.

The other ex-prisoners, Mr J. O'Connell, Mr Steele, Mr Barrett, and Dr Gray (Mr Duffy was too ill to be present), then addressed the assembly.

Mr O'CONNELL formally entered his notice of motion for a committee to inquire into the expediency of holding the Clontarf meeting, and to inquire into the materials necessary for the impeachment of the parties he had named connected with the recent state trials. He announced the rent for the week to be £575 6s. 6d. [loud cheers]. The usual vote of thanks having been passed to the Chairman, the meeting then adjourned.

HER MAJESTY'S VISIT TO SCOTLAND.—The intelligence respecting the progress of the royal squadron is necessarily scanty. At three o'clock on Monday afternoon, the royal yacht was abreast of Harwich harbour, and received a salute from Languard fort. At half-past four the squadron was off Orfordness, and, at 10 o'clock on Monday night, passed Yarmouth roads. It was thought that the royal yacht would gain Croomer at about midnight, and be abreast of Flamborough-head at four o'clock yesterday morning.

LIBERATION OF MR O'CONNELL.—BOROUGH OF FINSBURY.—A preliminary meeting of the liberals of Finsbury has been called for Wednesday (this evening), at the Belvidere tavern, for the purpose of appointing a committee to make arrangements for a public dinner, at which the honest and independent electors of the borough of Finsbury shall have an opportunity of expressing their feelings on the important event which has just occurred.

MR O'CONNELL AND THE DUNCOMBE TESTIMONIAL.—One of the first acts of Mr O'Connell, on leaving the Richmond Penitentiary, was, to forward his own subscription of £5 to the Duncombe testimonial, the regulations of that prison having prevented him from doing so earlier.

VISIT OF LOUIS PHILIPPE.—We understand that the visit of the King of the French to her Majesty is now definitively fixed for the early part of next month. It is arranged that his Majesty will embark at Treport, on the 8th of October, and proceed at once from Portsmouth to Windsor. The Queen of the French will not accompany his Majesty; but it is expected that King Louis Philippe will be attended by two of his ministers, and by his youngest son, the Duke de Montpensier.—*Times*.

NORTH LANCASHIRE ELECTION.—The correspondent of the *Chronicle* writes—"Whether there will be a contest is not yet known. The liberals and free traders of North Lancashire had a meeting this morning, it is said, at the Red Lion hotel, Preston, at which it was determined to send a requisition to

Charles Townley, Esq., and a deputation was sent with it, but no answer had been received up to nine o'clock this evening. The high sheriff, John Fowden Hindle, Esq., has fixed the nomination for Friday, the 20th of September, to take place at the Shire hall, within the castle, at Lancaster.

DREADFUL COLLISION AT SEA, AND LOSS OF LIFE.—Yesterday morning, the Iron Duke steamer, while on her passage from Dublin to Liverpool, with 80 passengers on board, when near Point Lynas, ran into a large brig—the Panama, of Liverpool—amidships. The vessel gave a heavy lurch, and in a minute or two went down, with all her sails and masts standing. One man was picked up by the boats, three were rescued from the bowsprit rigging, and the remainder of the crew (seven in number) went down with the vessel. The Iron Duke sustained but trifling damage.

INDIA AND CHINA.—The overland mail has arrived, but contains scarcely anything worthy of interest, beyond the intelligence contained in the telegraphic despatch. The cause of the mutiny in the 61st regiment, Bengal native infantry, at Shikarpore, is thus explained:—"In consequence of some misunderstanding from promises made by their colonel, the men, on being offered their pay on the 20th, refused it, alleging that they had been promised more. An officer reported the refusal to General Hunter, commanding there, who instantly went to the parade-ground, and ordered the men to receive their pay, but none but the native officers would take it, and, with the exception of two companies, the men broke off and caused confusion. The general was hooted, their commanding officer was pelted with bricks, and an officer was kicked. They then went to their quarters. The general sent for aid to Sukkur, and ordered the mutinous corps to attend morning parade. The men assembled, and fell into rank. The general formed them into open column, and read the general order granting them certain allowances, and asked them to take their pay, which they did. This occupied two hours' time; when the payment was ended, and they were ordered to go to their lines, they all, except three men, piled their arms, and demanded their discharge. The general had taken his precautions, and the refractory regiment was subsequently disarmed and compelled to quit Shikarpore, and to march to Sukkur, which it reached on the 26th of June. Thirty-nine of the ringleaders have been arrested. The 69th Bengal native regiment took the station at Shikarpore on the 24th. The mutineers have been ordered to march to Delhi, where it is expected they will be punished and disbanded. Lord Ellenborough was waiting the arrival of his successor, Sir H. Hardinge, at Calcutta, which was expected to take place about July 29th. The removal of Lord Ellenborough from the government had produced a modified declaration in his favour in some quarters, but generally it was regarded with indifference or with joy. Subscriptions for a testimonial were forming, and one regiment (her Majesty's 39th) had given 1500 rupees for the purpose. His lordship was expected to leave Calcutta in the Tennesseerim steamer in the beginning of August, but of this nothing positive was known. From China, with the exception of the departure of Sir H. Pottinger, there is no intelligence of interest.

FRANCE.—It has come out (says the *Chronicle*) that Sir Robert Peel, absorbed by the O'Connell strife, had determined to fling the Tahiti question overboard altogether, back out of his threats to France, and pocket her insults magnanimously, without the obtaining one single atom of reparation or concession. The whole party of the French conservatives have been in a fit of laughter ever since; and the opposition are ashamed of themselves for having supposed for a moment England capable of resenting an insult or threatening war.

"The truth is now known," says the *Débats*. "Has M. Guizot offered to disavow or to recall M. D'Aubigny? No, for M. D'Aubigny is neither disavowed nor recalled. Has the English cabinet demanded the disavowal and recall, not only of M. D'Aubigny, but of Captain Bruat? Whatever may have been the phases through which the negotiation passed, one thing is certain, the arrangement is concluded, and neither Captain Bruat or M. D'Aubigny has been disavowed or recalled. M. Guizot's firmness must, therefore, be applauded, if he has refused this double sacrifice which was demanded of him. The English cabinet deserves commendation for moderation, if, after mature examination, and recognising that there was no fault on our part in the use of our rights, it relaxed its pretensions."

TAHITI.—The following are extracts from letters dated, Tahiti, April 24th:—"I now regret to inform you, that there has been an engagement between the French troops and the natives, in which the former have lost 16 killed and about 50 wounded; and the latter from 180 to 200 killed, and a great many wounded. You may fancy we are not very easy here; in fact, we have all our arms cleaned up, and keep watch every night." [The engagement thus announced is probably identical with that described in the *Times* of July 26.] "Pomare was waiting patiently for the news from England. The natives were determined not to go back to their stations till they heard from England. All the missionaries, except four, had been constrained to leave the island in consequence of the distressing state of affairs."

CORN MARKET. MARK LANE. THIS DAY.

	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Beans	Peas	Flour
English ..	1530	110	680	1040
Scotch....						
Irish						
Foreign ..	500	2530	860			

No alteration from Monday's prices, but the market is very dull.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications have been received from "E. Clarke," "A Subscriber," and "One who uses great plainness of speech."
 "A Voluntary," next week.
 "J. Murray," next week.
 "Iron Pen." Too long a letter for a local matter.
 "D." We cannot lay our hands upon the document he refers to.

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The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 11, 1844.

SUMMARY.

SCARCELY had we asked the question last week, "Where are we now?" in anticipation that the judgment of the House of Lords on the writ of error would have been in accordance with the opinions of the judges, when we were at once astounded and delighted by the tidings which dissipated all our fears. On Wednesday that decision was arrived at—the law lords only, in conformity with custom in such cases, voting upon this question, and the vote being three to two in favour of the reversal of the judgment. Lord Lyndhurst opened the case against the traversers, in a speech which, however able, did little more than reiterate the arguments of the judges, and carefully abstained from grappling with any of the great constitutional principles involved. Lord Brougham followed on the same side, in a tone which betrayed more of the advocate than of the judge, and was chiefly remarkable for the boldness with which his lordship carried his assertions beyond those points which every other lawyer had given up as untenable. Lords Denman, Cottenham, and Campbell spoke on the other side of the question. The speech of Lord Denman deserves especial notice. It is a luminous, searching, comprehensive, and dignified exposition of constitutional law. It dealt with the rights of British subjects, and dealt with them right worthily. The tory papers have more than once remarked upon the coincidence of votes with the political opinions of those who gave them. It were better, we think, that they left that subject untouched. What previous part of this prosecution has been decided otherwise than by men whose political opinions might be held to explain the views they entertain? The jury, the Irish bench, the English judges, the Lord Chancellor, and Lord Brougham himself—were they not all predisposed against the Liberator of Ireland? After all, however, we must look not to the men, but to the arguments they put forward; and we make bold to say, that those of the whig lords were such as no lawyer on the other side could fairly dispose of.

And so O'Connell is free! he and the rest of the "convicted conspirators" quitted Richmond Penitentiary privately on Friday evening, publicly on Saturday morning. It seemed as if all Dublin was there to greet his restoration to liberty. A procession, according to the reporter of the *Times*, some four or five miles in length, accompanied the honourable gentleman to his residence in Merrion square, from a balcony of which he once again opened his lips in public, and vented his indignation upon his misguided prosecutors. His plans are evidently for the present unsettled. He talks of many possibilities, but resolves upon none. He is right. He will require more wisdom than common to guide him now.

On Thursday, parliament was prorogued by a royal speech delivered by commission—a speech full of compliments to both Houses of Parliament, but containing no single allusion to Ireland or its agitator. It announced one gratifying fact, viz., that the difference between this country and France had been brought to a satisfactory conclusion. A short debate preceded, in the House of Commons, the reading of the Queen's speech, in which Mr Duncombe flung in Sir James Graham's teeth, the phrase which the Home Secretary had, in an early part of the session, applied to Mr O'Connell and his fellow-traversers. Sir Robert Peel declared his readiness, when the proper period should arrive, to vindicate every step taken by the government in reference to the late prosecution. Lord John Russell reiterated his belief that Mr O'Connell had not had a fair trial, and Sir Thomas Wilde was just entering upon the legal merits of the case, when lo! the Black Rod made his appearance, and put a sudden stop to the conversation. Some surprise was elicited by the moving of a fresh writ for North Lancashire, Lord Stanley, the colonial secretary, having accepted the Chiltern hundreds. It appears that his lordship is not wanted by his

colleagues in the House of Commons, and that he is wanted in the House of Lords. To the House of Lords, accordingly, he has been summoned.

We have no other fact of importance to mention, save that the arrival of the overland Indian mail has been telegraphed; and that her Majesty embarked on Monday morning, at Woolwich, on her tour to Scotland.

PROMETHEUS UNBOUND.

"JUDGMENT reversed!" Like an electric flash these words have sped from pole to pole of the political firmament, startling men into wonder, admiration, gratitude. The Clontarf proclamation, the league-long indictment, the mutilated jury-list, the monster trial, the partizan charge, the "discriminating" verdict, the heavy sentence, the hurried imprisonment, the indecent chuckle of the home secretary, the unconcealed triumph of Orange subordinates, the common anticipation of the Lords' decision, and the premature talk of her Majesty's free pardon—all have ended where they deserved to end, but where no man expected that they would end, in a reversal of the judgment of the court below. Prometheus is unbound—the seeming impossibility is realised—right stands confessed a victor over might—and justice is avenged of all the insults and outrages lately perpetrated in her name. What an hour for O'Connell! O that it may be given him to employ it right nobly! From the lowest point of his humiliation, he bounds at one leap to the highest pinnacle of triumph. The prisoner of yesterday, upon whom inflated power looked with simulated compassion, is the hero of to-day, re-entering the metropolis of his fatherland with an ovation which kings might covet. Steady! steady! illustrious Liberator! you needed fortitude till now, and now you will require unwonted self-control!

We rejoice in this most unexpected termination of the Irish state trials for O'Connell's sake. Widely as we dissent from some of his conclusions, and those by no means unimportant ones—questionable as we think some passages of his history—culpable as we hold some of the means he has stooped to employ—we cannot shut our eyes to the fact, that this man's political course, taken as a whole, has, more than that of any patriot of the present age, tended to elevate the character of his countrymen, and to lay deep in the heart of the world principles of large and enduring value. If Great Britain is now safe from the chances of a bloody revolution, to his influence, mainly, she owes the inestimable advantage. His long and active life has solved that most difficult problem, how a down-trodden people may be strong without arms, formidable in obedience, more to be dreaded in sobriety and peace than on the battle field, invincible even in defeat. His grand experiment has been tried with a nation proverbially quick in resenting injury, and having injuries manifold and grievous to resent. His labours have been incessant—his energies indomitable—his temptations to unslip the passions of his followers numerous. But he has unswervingly persevered—and, with a more tremendous moral power than ever man possessed, he has invariably used it, not to destroy, but to redeem. Such things as he has already achieved have done much to crush intolerance, slavery, and oppression, all the world over. He may be bent, for aught we knew, upon an unattainable object, or upon an object which, if attained, would disappoint all parties—but sure we are, that his march thither will not, like that of heroes in general, be marked by desolation, misery, and death. Far as he goes, he will leave behind him, to gladden his confiding countrymen, a rich harvest of wrongs redressed, of rights restored, of justice done.

We rejoice for Ould Ireland's sake, a country which has our warmest sympathies, and, we verily believe, the sympathies of the great majority of our people. If she is yet behindhand in civilisation—if, as the strongest proof of it, her sons too often stand idly by, and see her daughters do the work of beasts of burden—if she is too content with dilapidation, to repair where she might, and with disorder, to contrive, and arrange, and improve where she could—if she be too negligent, at times, to inquire, and too proud to copy—such things serve only to prove that where the hand of oppression has long rested, some of the social virtues must needs be cramped. She is a noble country, however, spite of all her deficiencies, full of heart, quick as lightning in wit, cheerful in trouble as infancy in rags, generous in her impulses, and, although hot in temper, always ready to forgive. There are in Ireland all the staple elements to be hereafter wrought into a great nation. Human nature there, like a large portion of the soil, unexhausted, rich, but left to waste, waits nothing but kindly cultivation to produce bountiful returns. Nature has done much for both—government hitherto has done nothing but spoil what nature has so liberally given. Many centuries of oppression have left there deep traces, both physical and moral, of the evil man can do upon his fellow-man. Hope of better days, only of late a visitant to Irish hearts, has already wrought a marvelous and beneficial change. The report of O'Connell's imprison-

ment nearly frightened back the new and welcomed guest to the place whence she came. She lingered, as though loath to leave a people who needed so much the solace she could give them, and yet ashamed to stay. She did stay, nevertheless. And now, we hope, this reversal of judgment will give her an abiding place amongst the children of Erin. O'Connell's ultimate defeat would have gone far to break Ireland's noble spirit.

We rejoice for the sake of England, for freedom's sake, for the sake of the interests of man throughout the world. We saw, or dreamed we saw, in this prosecution, a deep-laid scheme, to stab the dearest rights of British subjects through O'Connell's side—trial by jury, the right of public meeting, the freedom of the press. The conspiracy with which he stood charged, and of which he was wrongfully convicted, was far surpassed by that darker, deadlier, more malignant conspiracy which, if successful, would have rendered the liberties bought with the blood of our ancestors, unworth a ten years' purchase. That charge of the Chief Justice of the Queen's Bench in Ireland—that sentence which followed it, as the ball follows the flash of the musket—if allowed to go down to the next generation as unquestioned and irreversible law—what mischiefs might they not have entailed upon our children—perhaps, even upon ourselves? What was wanted to wield a similar weapon against the Anti-corn-law League, the Complete Suffrage Union, or the Anti-state-church Association, but some accidental pretext for increasing the police, arming the out-pensioners, and distributing the troops over England with military skill? What would the bill of rights have availed us then? or *habeas corpus*? or *magna charta*? A manageable jury can always be had by means such as those which were practised in Dublin. A partizan judge may, even in England, be secured. And with this precedent in their favour, what government, having leisurely prepared itself for the struggle, might not have reasonably calculated upon success? Constructive conspiracy might have been charged against every band of agitators, however patriotic their object, and however unexceptionable their means. This decision of the highest legal tribunal of the land has, happily, averted the danger. We breathe all the more freely for it. We feel that we have still some rights which aristocracy has not wrested from our grasp. And we confidently predict, that the lesson which has been read to men in power, will not be forgotten for many years to come.

Yes! Hear it, all you who, in the fulness of your pride, and flushed with the parliamentary success corruption had given you, thought to stamp out the last spark of honesty and manly independence which still burned in the hearts of British freemen—you whose high political morality displayed itself in forging seals, in opening letters, in employing as spies the reporters of the public press, in equivocating till equivocation will no longer serve you, and in dispensing with all the most sacred rules of truthfulness and honour—you whose anxiety has been so loudly vaunted to vindicate the majesty of law, and to guard the rights of loyal subjects against the base designs of "convicted conspirators"—hear it, and let it be burnt into your consciences in ineffaceable characters—"Tame acquiescence in that which God and man condemn is not a duty, and the awakening of discontent, where discontent is peacefully leveled against legislative and administrative immoralities, is not a crime. Men may kindle in the bosoms of their fellow men the fire of true and enlightened patriotism without being amenable to your mildewed precedents, and may dare to look you and your doings in the face, without subjecting themselves to constitutional penalties. The judgment of your own court proclaims to all the world that, in your late crusade against the liberties of those over whom you have taken upon yourselves to rule, not they, but you, have been the law breakers; and if, because you hold possession of all the strongholds of power, you can safely defy all legal vengeance, be assured you will not escape. Public opinion condemns you: those common notions of justice inherited by our race, the relics of our primeval dignity, the still visible impress of heaven upon our minds, radiate a glare of light upon your guilt, and shrivel up, as scorching parchment, the reputation which you would fain transmit to posterity. Future ages will look upon your names, and wonder that anything so mean, so worthless, so utterly despicable in the eye of virtue, could ever have been associated with the ambition of man."

One word more. We deeply regret to observe, in the repeal papers, and especially in the *Nation*, by far the ablest of them all, an outburst of exultation over England; as if England were more identified with the misdeeds of the Home office, than Ireland is with the proceedings of Dublin castle. We had hoped that the hearty and enthusiastic reception everywhere given to O'Connell, when last in this country, would have sufficed to render clear enough to Irish apprehension, the distinction between the English people and the English government. Whatever purpose may be answered by returning to the senseless and savage

outcry against England—and we much fear there is a purpose—of one thing we are certain, that the ultimate good of Ireland will not be advanced thereby. Ireland never can gain what she needs, but as she takes the sympathies of the sister country with her; and those sympathies are not likely to be elicited by constantly and systematically misrepresenting her as a malignant foe. The writers who cultivate this sulphureous style have much to answer for. Their patriotism may be intense, but their discretion is anything but remarkable. They may effect much mischief, but cannot achieve much good. Their real friends on this side of the channel are perpetually put upon the wheel by this species of bombast. In the calm, peaceful, forbearing, dignified, determined, attitude of the Irish people, they have before them an object upon which their admiration can approvingly rest. Pity it is, that the conductors of the press should step between them and this object, and play such antics as compel sober on-lookers to avert their gaze. If they mean to serve Ireland, let them harmonise somewhat more correctly with the moral sublimity of Ireland's present position.

PARLIAMENT'S PICTURE OF ITSELF.

MODESTY has been usually esteemed amongst the vulgar as a virtue—another proof, if another were wanting, that between the common people and their reputed representatives there is no sympathy. “Self-praise”—so runs the old proverb,—“is no recommendation;” but where would be the character of parliament if it did not resort to this method of displaying its pretensions? To be sure, it takes some pains to conceal its art. Each session embodies the wisdom or the folly of the minister for the time being; and, at the close of each session, royalty is brought upon the stage to pronounce judgment upon the work done, in words prepared by that minister himself. Thus the drama closes with a sort of parliamentary soliloquy, in which are set forth, in neat official phraseology, its opinions of itself. This extremely edifying procedure has just terminated the session of 1844. Let us hear what the government, and parliament their creature, think of their own character.

Taking up that feature of it first which might be considered the most questionable, her Majesty is instructed by her minister to present her “warm acknowledgments for the zeal and assiduity with which my lords and gentlemen have applied themselves to the discharge of their public duties during a laborious and protracted session.” Excellent! The industry of our legislators is matter of public notoriety. Up to Easter they do nothing but vote supplies in very thin houses, and play at party discussion in very full ones. This done, they adjourn for the holidays. Between Easter and Whitsuntide a few public measures are introduced, debated, advanced a stage, and postponed for the present. After the Whitsun holidays, the comparatively few senators who remain in town, set to work in earnest, shelve the greater proportion of bills for another session, and pitchfork the remainder with more haste than good speed up to the House of Lords. During all this time, the house is counted out at least one evening a week, adjourned at a very early hour another, and, very possibly, never made up on a third. Such are the “zeal and assiduity” of the “gentlemen.” “My lords” evince these qualities more strikingly. No ingenuity of theirs, wide as may be the range of its exercise, can find them above one evening's employment in a fortnight. They positively bite their finger nails from sheer ennui. They can hardly be said to help the other house “to do nothing.” Even this might relieve them, by allowing them to fancy they were occupied. But this small satisfaction is denied them. They sit occasionally, it is true—but it is only to register the decrees of the House of Commons. Were Lords Brougham and Campbell withdrawn from the stage, nothing would be left but silence, dullness, and inaction.

“Ye gods of quiet, and of sleep profound!
Whose soft dominion o'er this castle sways,
And all the widely-silent places round,
Forgive me if my trembling pen displays
What never yet was sung in mortal lays.
But how shall I attempt such arduous string,
I, who have spent my nights and nightly days,
In this soul-deadening place, loose loitering?
Ah! how shall I for this uprear my mounted wing?”

We wonder whether Thomson, when he penned these lines, had the House of Lords in his view.

“The result has been,” continues the royal speech, “the completion of many legislative measures, calculated to improve the administration of the law, and to promote the public welfare.” And so parliament thinks this, does it? and can really indulge in this remarkably pleasant vein of self-satisfied retrospection? 'Tis curious, however, that her Majesty's speech specifies only one of these said “many legislative measures,” namely, the bill for regulating the issue of bank notes, and upon this it enlarges, as if expressly to leave no time for a bare enumeration of the others. It reminds us of the gentleman who, boasting of the great number of men-of-war which he had seen at Spithead, declared, upon some doubts having been expressed, that he could

name twenty at least—and upon being challenged to do so said, “Why, there was the Dreadnought, that is one—that, by-the-bye, is a beautiful vessel—she walks the water like a thing of life”—and having broken away from his enumeration, for the sake of descending on the merits of the Dreadnought, he unfortunately forgot to resume the thread. Sir Robert Peel's speech—that is, the Queen's, drawn up by Sir Robert—does a similar thing. It is as though parliament had said—“What a many measures, calculated to promote the public welfare, we have passed! A many, indeed! more than we can mention! Let us see! There's the Banking bill, for one. A useful measure! A singularly useful measure! ‘Her Majesty trusts that these measures will tend to place the pecuniary transactions of the country upon a sounder basis, without imposing any inconvenient restrictions upon commercial credit and enterprise.’” And so all the rest pass off under cover of this eulogium.

We have now seen parliament's opinion upon its own industry and the results of it. We cannot forbear looking at the notions it entertains of the moral influence exerted upon society by its example:—

“Her Majesty rejoices in the belief that, on your return to your several districts, you will find generally prevailing throughout the country a spirit of loyalty and cheerful obedience to the law.”

“Her Majesty is confident that these dispositions, so important to the peaceful development of our resources, and to our national strength, will be confirmed and encouraged by your presence and example.”

That “a spirit of loyalty and cheerful obedience to the law” should prevail during the absence of these legislative gentlemen from home seems wonderful; and, indeed, considering that incendiarianism has only just ceased to stalk through the land, this compliment to the people is, perhaps, a little strained. But parliament is rising—peers and members will go back to their country seats, and to the practice of all the quiet virtues by which they are distinguished—and so, during the next six months, every good disposition will be confirmed and encouraged by their presence and example. Was this sentence meant as sarcasm? Did it slyly point at the obedience to the law exemplified by the Duke of Richmond and his colleagues, in the matter of certain *qui tam* actions? The parties thus addressed will, almost to a man, sally forth, in the true spirit of the game laws, to reap pleasure at other folk's expense—to shoot the wild animals which the tenant-farmer has fed—and to undermine, by presents of the same, discreetly apportioned, such political virtue as is yet left in the electoral body. And they really imagine that the sobriety, morality, order, and decency, of society are mainly produced by the force of their example! Happy ignorance! but how profound! how perfectly Stygian! We know of nothing to match it, save the self-complacency of the Celestial Emperor, who actually eats his rice in the belief that the whole barbarian world trembles at his frown, and pines in consuming desires to kiss his imperial toe. Too flattering! Too flattering, 'pon honour, gentlemen!

GAME-LAW SUICIDES.

THE kind of “obedience to the law” to be “encouraged and confirmed” by the return of “my lords and gentlemen” to their respective homes, has received a melancholy illustration in the suicide of two gamekeepers of Earl Stradbroke's, at his seat, Henham park, Suffolk, occasioned, it would seem, by the apprehension of his lordship's visit. William Easy and John Cucksey, the one the head, and the other an assistant, gamekeeper of the Earl, shot themselves, the first on Saturday, the 30th of August, the last on Sunday the 31st. A coroner's inquest has been held, but no explanation of the motives which prompted self-destruction were elicited; and in the case of Cucksey, the jury left it undetermined whether the deceased was destroyed by his own hand, or whether from the effect of accident. Their verdict in this instance fully exhibits the species of incapacity to see, upon which we are about to remark. The gun with which the poor man was shot, was usually suspended from a beam under the ceiling by two hooks, one of which was found upon the floor, and, from the ceiling being low, it was suggested to the jury, and evidently admitted by them as probable, that a person of the same stature as the deceased might probably have touched the beam with his hat, and that the gun might have gone off accidentally. We have tried to conceive of all the possible positions in which this might have occurred, and the contents of the gun be lodged in the head of the man—and we have been unable to make it out to our satisfaction. But we can easily imagine a coroner's inquest so directed as to lead off the minds of others from facts which speak trumpet-tongued against the iniquities of the game laws. And this impression of ours receives confirmation from the report, that since these disastrous occurrences, a third gamekeeper has been placed under restraint, in consequence of the frightfully excited state of his mind.

We have made some inquiries touching these

awful facts, but cannot pride ourselves greatly on our success. In the agricultural and game-preserving districts of England, it is not easy to obtain information respecting events which reflect disgrace upon resident lords and squires. In the immediate neighbourhoods in which they occur, dubious replies, accompanied with broken hints and floating rumours, are all that can be got from the peasantry and small tradesmen. Awkward reports are easily silenced. Men do not talk upon them till leave is given; and, if the two or three individuals who act as fuglemen of the parish practise a due reserve, or resort to an evasion, silence is effectually gained. You can get the facts only as through a fog; and, if you look too curiously, to catch a correct outline, the mist closes up, and becomes thoroughly impervious. All men believe what no man says plainly, and all men, when pressed, deny their belief.

We believe, however, the following statements will not very widely err from the mark. Gentlemen who rejoice in game are not over particular as to the methods resorted to for rendering it plentiful on their own estates. Pheasants' eggs, and the like, may be obtained for money, and poachers may find customers in the very magistrates who condemn them. But poachers never approach landowners for this purpose in *propria persona*—they get at them through the medium of gamekeepers. These officials, thus employed, learn to transact a little business for themselves. Poaching becomes a profitable contraband trade, and, by means of it, one noble lord thrives at the expense of another. Things cannot go on long in this way without coming to a crisis—an exposure either turns up or is expected, and the guilty parties in all such cases have to meet, as they can, the shock of such exposure.

It is possible, then—we say no more—that Earl Stradbroke's gamekeepers, acting upon commonly recognised principles of game-law morality, had made a thriving business out of the depredations of the poachers, and that they had gone so far in their free-trade practices, that the sudden return of his lordship filled them with concern—that mutual accusations were the result—that mutual threats of informing followed—that William Easy, the head gamekeeper, to get rid of the responsibility, shot himself—and that John Cucksey, finding himself left to stand the brunt alone, imitated, on the next day, the example of his superior. It is possible that the same cause may explain the strange excitement of a third gamekeeper, and that thus two suicides *in esse*, and one *in posse*, may be traced up directly to the morality of the game laws. We have put all this in the form of conjecture, because we are anxious not to overstate the matter; but we have not done so at the bidding of mere ingenuity—the information gained by our inquiries has induced us thus to state the possibilities of the case.

And now we leave it with our readers to say whether these same game laws do not constitute a nuisance, which it becomes society at once and for ever to abolish. They create crime among all the parties whom their operation affects. The evils they produce are incalculable—the character they destroy, altogether beyond computation. The lives they have sacrificed have been numerous. They act like a gangrene. At whatever point they come in contact with society, they eat into the living flesh, and destroy all its healthy qualities. And they exist, and work this woe, for no assignable object but that landed proprietors may indulge themselves in field sports, and add something to their income by their transactions with the game dealer. Surely we have had commitments, homicides, suicides, and murders enough, as the direct result of these laws, to seal their fate in any civilised country.

SERIOUS INDISPOSITION OF MISS PEEL.—We regret to hear that, owing to the alarming illness of Miss Peel, daughter of Sir Robert and Lady Peel, the right hon. baronet, who had made every arrangement to accompany her Majesty and Prince Albert to Blair Athol, is not able to embark for Scotland, as was his intention.—*Times*.

The Prince of Prussia embarked at Greenwich on Saturday evening for Ostend, en route for Berlin. During the week he was on a visit to the Queen at Windsor, and went to shoot several times in the royal park with Prince Albert. On Friday, he attended the royal christening. On Saturday, after inspecting various objects of curiosity in the metropolis, he went over Greenwich hospital, dined with the Prussian consul and several naval officers, and embarked for Ostend at 8 o'clock, in the Lightning steamer.

MR PRITCHARD.—As we have mentioned Mr Pritchard's name, we will just state that the French papers are mistaken in supposing his recall from Tahiti to be the result of these disturbances. Whether it might have been or not we cannot tell, but it happens that it is not. He was recalled before these disturbances took place, when the temporary French protectorate began, and appointed to the Navigators' Islands, an appointment which has not been affected by events which have taken place since, which is equal in point of emolument and far better suited to Mr Pritchard's abilities than the post he lately filled at Tahiti.—*Times* of yesterday.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications have been received from "E. Clarke," "A Subscriber," and "One who uses great plainness of speech." "A Voluntary," next week. "J. Murray," next week. "Iron Pen." Too long a letter for a local matter. "D." We cannot lay our hands upon the document he refers to.

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The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 11, 1844.

SUMMARY.

SCARCELY had we asked the question last week, "Where are we now?" in anticipation that the judgment of the House of Lords on the writ of error would have been in accordance with the opinions of the judges, when we were at once astounded and delighted by the tidings which dissipated all our fears. On Wednesday that decision was arrived at—the law lords only, in conformity with custom in such cases, voting upon this question, and the vote being three to two in favour of the reversal of the judgment. Lord Lyndhurst opened the case against the traversers, in a speech which, however able, did little more than reiterate the arguments of the judges, and carefully abstained from grappling with any of the great constitutional principles involved. Lord Brougham followed on the same side, in a tone which betrayed more of the advocate than of the judge, and was chiefly remarkable for the boldness with which his lordship carried his assertions beyond those points which every other lawyer had given up as untenable. Lords Denman, Cottenham, and Campbell spoke on the other side of the question. The speech of Lord Denman deserves especial notice. It is a luminous, searching, comprehensive, and dignified exposition of constitutional law. It dealt with the rights of British subjects, and dealt with them right worthily. The tory papers have more than once remarked upon the coincidence of votes with the political opinions of those who gave them. It were better, we think, that they left that subject untouched. What previous part of this prosecution has been decided otherwise than by men whose political opinions might be held to explain the views they entertain? The jury, the Irish bench, the English judges, the Lord Chancellor, and Lord Brougham himself—were they not all predisposed against the Liberator of Ireland? After all, however, we must look not to the men, but to the arguments they put forward; and we make bold to say, that those of the whig lords were such as no lawyer on the other side could fairly dispose of.

And so O'Connell is free! he and the rest of the "convicted conspirators" quitted Richmond Penitentiary privately on Friday evening, publicly on Saturday morning. It seemed as if all Dublin was there to greet his restoration to liberty. A procession, according to the reporter of the *Times*, some four or five miles in length, accompanied the honourable gentleman to his residence in Merrion square, from a balcony of which he once again opened his lips in public, and vented his indignation upon his misguided prosecutors. His plans are evidently for the present unsettled. He talks of many possibilities, but resolves upon none. He is right. He will require more wisdom than common to guide him now.

On Thursday, parliament was prorogued by a royal speech delivered by commission—a speech full of compliments to both Houses of Parliament, but containing no single allusion to Ireland or its agitator. It announced one gratifying fact, viz., that the difference between this country and France had been brought to a satisfactory conclusion. A short debate preceded, in the House of Commons, the reading of the Queen's speech, in which Mr Duncombe flung in Sir James Graham's teeth, the phrase which the Home Secretary had, in an early part of the session, applied to Mr O'Connell and his fellow-traversers. Sir Robert Peel declared his readiness, when the proper period should arrive, to vindicate every step taken by the government in reference to the late prosecution. Lord John Russell reiterated his belief that Mr O'Connell had not had a fair trial, and Sir Thomas Wilde was just entering upon the legal merits of the case, when lo! the Black Rod made his appearance, and put a sudden stop to the conversation. Some surprise was elicited by the moving of a fresh writ for North Lancashire, Lord Stanley, the colonial secretary, having accepted the Chiltern hundreds. It appears that his lordship is *not* wanted by his

colleagues in the House of Commons, and that he is wanted in the House of Lords. To the House of Lords, accordingly, he has been summoned.

We have no other fact of importance to mention, save that the arrival of the overland Indian mail has been telegraphed; and that her Majesty embarked on Monday morning, at Woolwich, on her tour to Scotland.

PROMETHEUS UNBOUND.

"JUDGMENT reversed!" Like an electric flash these words have sped from pole to pole of the political firmament, startling men into wonder, admiration, gratitude. The Clontarf proclamation, the league-long indictment, the mutilated jury-list, the monster trial, the partizan charge, the "discriminating" verdict, the heavy sentence, the hurried imprisonment, the indecent chuckle of the home secretary, the unconcealed triumph of Orange subordinates, the common anticipation of the Lords' decision, and the premature talk of her Majesty's free pardon—all have ended where they deserved to end, but where no man expected that they would end, in a reversal of the judgment of the court below. Prometheus is unbound—the seeming impossibility is realised—right stands confessed a victor over might—and justice is avenged of all the insults and outrages lately perpetrated in her name. What an hour for O'Connell! O that it may be given him to employ it right nobly! From the lowest point of his humiliation, he bounds at one leap to the highest pinnacle of triumph. The prisoner of yesterday, upon whom inflated power looked with simulated compassion, is the hero of to-day, re-entering the metropolis of his fatherland with an ovation which kings might covet. Steady! steady! illustrious Liberator! you needed fortitude till now, and now you will require unwonted self-control!

We rejoice in this most unexpected termination of the Irish state trials for O'Connell's sake. Widely as we dissent from some of his conclusions, and those by no means unimportant ones—questionable as we think some passages of his history—culpable as we hold some of the means he has stooped to employ—we cannot shut our eyes to the fact, that this man's political course, taken as a whole, has, more than that of any patriot of the present age, tended to elevate the character of his countrymen, and to lay deep in the heart of the world principles of large and enduring value. If Great Britain is now safe from the chances of a bloody revolution, to his influence, mainly, she owes the inestimable advantage. His long and active life has solved that most difficult problem, how a down-trodden people may be strong without arms, formidable in obedience, more to be dreaded in sobriety and peace than on the battle field, invincible even in defeat. His grand experiment has been tried with a nation proverbially quick in resenting injury, and having injuries manifold and grievous to resent. His labours have been incessant—his energies indomitable—his temptations to unslip the passions of his followers numerous. But he has unwaveringly persevered—and, with a more tremendous moral power than ever man possessed, he has invariably used it, not to destroy, but to redeem. Such things as he has already achieved have done much to crush intolerance, slavery, and oppression, all the world over. He may be bent, for aught we knew, upon an unattainable object, or upon an object which, if attained, would disappoint all parties—but sure we are, that his march thither will not, like that of heroes in general, be marked by desolation, misery, and death. Far as he goes, he will leave behind him, to gladden his confiding countrymen, a rich harvest of wrongs redressed, of rights restored, of justice done.

We rejoice for Ould Ireland's sake, a country which has our warmest sympathies, and, we verily believe, the sympathies of the great majority of our people. If she is yet behindhand in civilisation—if, as the strongest proof of it, her sons too often stand idly by, and see her daughters do the work of beasts of burden—if she is too content with dilapidation, to repair where she might, and with disorder, to contrive, and arrange, and improve where she could—if she be too negligent, at times, to inquire, and too proud to copy—such things serve only to prove that where the hand of oppression has long rested, some of the social virtues must needs be cramped. She is a noble country, however, spite of all her deficiencies, full of heart, quick as lightning in wit, cheerful in trouble as infancy in rags, generous in her impulses, and, although hot in temper, always ready to forgive. There are in Ireland all the staple elements to be hereafter wrought into a great nation. Human nature there, like a large portion of the soil, unexhausted, rich, but left to waste, waits nothing but kindly cultivation to produce bountiful returns. Nature has done much for both—government hitherto has done nothing but spoil what nature has so liberally given. Many centuries of oppression have left there deep traces, both physical and moral, of the evil man can do upon his fellow-man. Hope of better days, only of late a visitant to Irish hearts, has already wrought a marvelous and beneficial change. The report of O'Connell's imprison-

ment nearly frightened back the new and welcomed guest to the place whence she came. She lingered, as though loath to leave a people who needed so much the solace she could give them, and yet ashamed to stay. She did stay, nevertheless. And now, we hope, this reversal of judgment will give her an abiding place amongst the children of Erin. O'Connell's ultimate defeat would have gone far to break Ireland's noble spirit.

We rejoice for the sake of England, for freedom's sake, for the sake of the interests of man throughout the world. We saw, or dreamed we saw, in this prosecution, a deep-laid scheme, to stab the dearest rights of British subjects through O'Connell's side—trial by jury, the right of public meeting, the freedom of the press. The conspiracy with which he stood charged, and of which he was wrongfully convicted, was far surpassed by that darker, deadlier, more malignant conspiracy which, if successful, would have rendered the liberties bought with the blood of our ancestors, unworth a ten years' purchase. That charge of the Chief Justice of the Queen's Bench in Ireland—that sentence which followed it, as the ball follows the flash of the musket—if allowed to go down to the next generation as unquestioned and irreversible law—what mischiefs might they not have entailed upon our children—perhaps, even upon ourselves? What was wanted to wield a similar weapon against the Anti-corn-law League, the Complete Suffrage Union, or the Anti-state-church Association, but some accidental pretext for increasing the police, arming the out-pensioners, and distributing the troops over England with military skill? What would the bill of rights have availed us then? or *habeas corpus*? or *magna charta*? A manageable jury can always be had by means such as those which were practised in Dublin. A partizan judge may, even in England, be secured. And with this precedent in their favour, what government, having leisurely prepared itself for the struggle, might not have reasonably calculated upon success? Constructive conspiracy might have been charged against every band of agitators, however patriotic their object, and however unexceptionable their means. This decision of the highest legal tribunal of the land has, happily, averted the danger. We breathe all the more freely for it. We feel that we have still some rights which aristocracy has not wrested from our grasp. And we confidently predict, that the lesson which has been read to men in power, will not be forgotten for many years to come.

Yes! Hear it, all you who, in the fulness of your pride, and flushed with the parliamentary success corruption had given you, thought to stamp out the last spark of honesty and manly independence which still burned in the hearts of British freemen—you whose high political morality displayed itself in forging seals, in opening letters, in employing as spies the reporters of the public press, in equivocating till equivocation will no longer serve you, and in dispensing with all the most sacred rules of truthfulness and honour—you whose anxiety has been so loudly vaunted to vindicate the majesty of law, and to guard the rights of loyal subjects against the base designs of "convicted conspirators"—hear it, and let it be burnt into your consciences in ineffaceable characters—"Tame acquiescence in that which God and man condemn is not a duty, and the awakening of discontent, where discontent is peacefully leveled against legislative and administrative immoralities, is not a crime. Men may kindle in the bosoms of their fellow men the fire of true and enlightened patriotism without being amenable to your mildewed precedents, and may dare to look you and your doings in the face, without subjecting themselves to constitutional penalties. The judgment of your own court proclaims to all the world that, in your late crusade against the liberties of those over whom you have taken upon yourselves to rule, not they, but you, have been the law breakers; and if, because you hold possession of all the strongholds of power, you can safely defy all legal vengeance, be assured you will not escape. Public opinion condemns you: those common notions of justice inherited by our race, the relics of our primeval dignity, the still visible impress of heaven upon our minds, radiate a glare of light upon your guilt, and shrivel up, as scorching parchment, the reputation which you would fain transmit to posterity. Future ages will look upon your names, and wonder that anything so mean, so worthless, so utterly despicable in the eye of virtue, could ever have been associated with the ambition of man."

One word more. We deeply regret to observe, in the repeal papers, and especially in the *Nation*, by far the ablest of them all, an outburst of exultation over England; as if England were more identified with the misdeeds of the Home office, than Ireland is with the proceedings of Dublin castle. We had hoped that the hearty and enthusiastic reception everywhere given to O'Connell, when last in this country, would have sufficed to render clear enough to Irish apprehension, the distinction between the English people and the English government. Whatever purpose may be answered by returning to the senseless and savage

outcry against England—and we much fear there is a purpose—of one thing we are certain, that the ultimate good of Ireland will not be advanced thereby. Ireland never can gain what she needs, but as she takes the sympathies of the sister country with her; and those sympathies are not likely to be elicited by constantly and systematically misrepresenting her as a malignant foe. The writers who cultivate this sulphureous style have much to answer for. Their patriotism may be intense, but their discretion is anything but remarkable. They may effect much mischief, but cannot achieve much good. Their real friends on this side of the channel are perpetually put upon the wheel by this species of bombast. In the calm, peaceful, forbearing, dignified, determined, attitude of the Irish people, they have before them an object upon which their admiration can approvingly rest. Pity it is, that the conductors of the press should step between them and this object, and play such antics as compel sober on-lookers to avert their gaze. If they mean to serve Ireland, let them harmonise somewhat more correctly with the moral sublimity of Ireland's present position.

PARLIAMENT'S PICTURE OF ITSELF.

MODESTY has been usually esteemed amongst the vulgar as a virtue—another proof, if another were wanting, that between the common people and their reputed representatives there is no sympathy. "Self-praise"—so runs the old proverb,—"is no recommendation;" but where would be the character of parliament if it did not resort to this method of displaying its pretensions? To be sure, it takes some pains to conceal its art. Each session embodies the wisdom or the folly of the minister for the time being; and, at the close of each session, royalty is brought upon the stage to pronounce judgment upon the work done, in words prepared by that minister himself. Thus the drama closes with a sort of parliamentary soliloquy, in which are set forth, in neat official phraseology, its opinions of itself. This extremely edifying procedure has just terminated the session of 1844. Let us hear what the government, and parliament their creature, think of their own character.

Taking up that feature of it first which might be considered the most questionable, her Majesty is instructed by her minister to present her "warm acknowledgments for the zeal and assiduity with which my lords and gentlemen have applied themselves to the discharge of their public duties during a laborious and protracted session." Excellent! The industry of our legislators is matter of public notoriety. Up to Easter they do nothing but vote supplies in very thin houses, and play at party discussion in very full ones. This done, they adjourn for the holidays. Between Easter and Whitsuntide a few public measures are introduced, debated, advanced a stage, and postponed for the present. After the Whitsun holidays, the comparatively few senators who remain in town, set to work in earnest, shelve the greater proportion of bills for another session, and pitchfork the remainder with more haste than good speed up to the House of Lords. During all this time, the house is counted out at least one evening a week, adjourned at a very early hour another, and, very possibly, never made up on a third. Such are the "zeal and assiduity" of the "gentlemen." "My lords" evince these qualities more strikingly. No ingenuity of theirs, wide as may be the range of its exercise, can find them above one evening's employment in a fortnight. They positively bite their finger nails from sheer ennui. They can hardly be said to help the other house "to do nothing." Even this might relieve them, by allowing them to fancy they were occupied. But this small satisfaction is denied them. They sit occasionally, it is true—but it is only to register the decrees of the House of Commons. Were Lords Brougham and Campbell withdrawn from the stage, nothing would be left but silence, dullness, and inaction.

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But how shall I attempt such arduous string,
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In this soul-deadening place, loose loitering?
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"The result has been," continues the royal speech, "the completion of many legislative measures, calculated to improve the administration of the law, and to promote the public welfare." And so parliament thinks this, does it? and can really indulge in this remarkably pleasant vein of self-satisfied retrospection? 'Tis curious, however, that her Majesty's speech specifies only one of these said "many legislative measures," namely, the bill for regulating the issue of bank notes, and upon this it enlarges, as if expressly to leave no time for a bare enumeration of the others. It reminds us of the gentleman who, boasting of the great number of men-of-war which he had seen at Spithead, declared, upon some doubts having been expressed, that he could

name twenty at least—and upon being challenged to do so said, "Why, there was the Dreadnought, that is one—that, by-the-bye, is a beautiful vessel—she walks the water like a thing of life"—and having broken away from his enumeration, for the sake of descending on the merits of the Dreadnought, he unfortunately forgot to resume the thread. Sir Robert Peel's speech—that is, the Queen's, drawn up by Sir Robert—does a similar thing. It is as though parliament had said—"What a many measures, calculated to promote the public welfare, we have passed! A many, indeed! more than we can mention! Let us see! There's the Banking bill, for one. A useful measure! A singularly useful measure! 'Her Majesty trusts that these measures will tend to place the pecuniary transactions of the country upon a sounder basis, without imposing any inconvenient restrictions upon commercial credit and enterprise.'" And so all the rest pass off under cover of this eulogium.

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"Her Majesty rejoices in the belief that, on your return to your several districts, you will find generally prevailing throughout the country a spirit of loyalty and cheerful obedience to the law."

"Her Majesty is confident that these dispositions, so important to the peaceful development of our resources, and to our national strength, will be confirmed and encouraged by your presence and example."

That "a spirit of loyalty and cheerful obedience to the law" should prevail during the absence of these legislative gentlemen from home seems wonderful; and, indeed, considering that incendiarism has only just ceased to stalk through the land, this compliment to the people is, perhaps, a little strained. But parliament is rising—peers and members will go back to their country seats, and to the practice of all the quiet virtues by which they are distinguished—and so, during the next six months, every good disposition will be confirmed and encouraged by their presence and example. Was this sentence meant as sarcasm? Did it slyly point at the obedience to the law exemplified by the Duke of Richmond and his colleagues, in the matter of certain *qui tam* actions? The parties thus addressed will, almost to a man, sally forth, in the true spirit of the game laws, to reap pleasure at other folk's expense—to shoot the wild animals which the tenant-farmer has fed—and to undermine, by presents of the same, discreetly apportioned, such political virtue as is yet left in the electoral body. And they really imagine that the sobriety, morality, order, and decency, of society are mainly produced by the force of their example! Happy ignorance! but how profound! how perfectly Stygian! We know of nothing to match it, save the self-complacency of the Celestial Emperor, who actually eats his rice in the belief that the whole barbarian world trembles at his frown, and pines in consuming desires to kiss his imperial toe. Too flattering! Too flattering, 'pon honour, gentlemen!

GAME-LAW SUICIDES.

THE kind of "obedience to the law" to be "encouraged and confirmed" by the return of "my lords and gentlemen" to their respective homes, has received a melancholy illustration in the suicide of two gamekeepers of Earl Stradbroke's, at his seat, Henham park, Suffolk, occasioned, it would seem, by the apprehension of his lordship's visit. William Easy and John Cucksey, the one the head, and the other an assistant, gamekeeper of the Earl, shot themselves, the first on Saturday, the 30th of August, the last on Sunday the 31st. A coroner's inquest has been held, but no explanation of the motives which prompted self-destruction were elicited; and in the case of Cucksey, the jury left it undetermined whether the deceased was destroyed by his own hand, or whether from the effect of accident. Their verdict in this instance fully exhibits the species of incapacity to see, upon which we are about to remark. The gun with which the poor man was shot, was usually suspended from a beam under the ceiling by two hooks, one of which was found upon the floor, and, from the ceiling being low, it was suggested to the jury, and evidently admitted by them as probable, that a person of the same stature as the deceased might probably have touched the beam with his hat, and that the gun might have gone off accidentally. We have tried to conceive of all the possible positions in which this might have occurred, and the contents of the gun be lodged in the head of the man—and we have been unable to make it out to our satisfaction. But we can easily imagine a coroner's inquest so directed as to lead off the minds of others from facts which speak trumpet-tongued against the iniquities of the game laws. And this impression of ours receives confirmation from the report, that since these disastrous occurrences, a third gamekeeper has been placed under restraint, in consequence of the frightfully excited state of his mind.

We have made some inquiries touching these

awful facts, but cannot pride ourselves greatly on our success. In the agricultural and game-preserving districts of England, it is not easy to obtain information respecting events which reflect disgrace upon resident lords and squires. In the immediate neighbourhoods in which they occur, dubious replies, accompanied with broken hints and floating rumours, are all that can be got from the peasantry and small tradesmen. Awkward reports are easily silenced. Men do not talk upon them till leave is given; and, if the two or three individuals who act as fuglemen of the parish practise a due reserve, or resort to an evasion, silence is effectually gained. You can get the facts only as through a fog; and, if you look too curiously, to catch a correct outline, the mist closes up, and becomes thoroughly impervious. All men believe what no man says plainly, and all men, when pressed, deny their belief.

We believe, however, the following statements will not very widely err from the mark. Gentlemen who rejoice in game are not over particular as to the methods resorted to for rendering it plentiful on their own estates. Pheasants' eggs, and the like, may be obtained for money, and poachers may find customers in the very magistrates who condemn them. But poachers never approach landowners for this purpose *in propria persona*—they get at them through the medium of gamekeepers. These officials, thus employed, learn to transact a little business for themselves. Poaching becomes a profitable contraband trade, and, by means of it, one noble lord thrives at the expense of another. Things cannot go on long in this way without coming to a crisis—an exposure either turns up or is expected, and the guilty parties in all such cases have to meet, as they can, the shock of such exposure.

It is possible, then—we say no more—that Earl Stradbroke's gamekeepers, acting upon commonly recognised principles of game-law morality, had made a thriving business out of the depredations of the poachers, and that they had gone so far in their free-trade practices, that the sudden return of his lordship filled them with concern—that mutual accusations were the result—that mutual threats of informing followed—that William Easy, the head gamekeeper, to get rid of the responsibility, shot himself—and that John Cucksey, finding himself left to stand the brunt alone, imitated, on the next day, the example of his superior. It is possible that the same cause may explain the strange excitement of a third gamekeeper, and that thus two suicides *in esse*, and one *in posse*, may be traced up directly to the morality of the game laws. We have put all this in the form of conjecture, because we are anxious not to overstate the matter; but we have not done so at the bidding of mere ingenuity—the information gained by our inquiries has induced us thus to state the possibilities of the case.

And now we leave it with our readers to say whether these same game laws do not constitute a nuisance, which it becomes society at once and for ever to abolish. They create crime among all the parties whom their operation affects. The evils they produce are incalculable—the character they destroy, altogether beyond computation. The lives they have sacrificed have been numerous. They act like a gangrene. At whatever point they come in contact with society, they eat into the living flesh, and destroy all its healthy qualities. And they exist, and work this woe, for no assignable object but that landed proprietors may indulge themselves in field sports, and add something to their income by their transactions with the game dealer. Surely we have had commitments, homicides, suicides, and murders enough, as the direct result of these laws, to seal their fate in any civilised country.

SERIOUS INDISPOSITION OF MISS PEEL.—We regret to hear that, owing to the alarming illness of Miss Peel, daughter of Sir Robert and Lady Peel, the right hon. baronet, who had made every arrangement to accompany her Majesty and Prince Albert to Blair Athol, is not able to embark for Scotland, as was his intention.—*Times*.

The Prince of Prussia embarked at Greenwich on Saturday evening for Ostend, en route for Berlin. During the week he was on a visit to the Queen at Windsor, and went to shoot several times in the royal preserves with Prince Albert. On Friday, he attended the royal christening. On Saturday, after inspecting various objects of curiosity in the metropolis, he went over Greenwich hospital, dined with the Prussian consul and several naval officers, and embarked for Ostend at 8 o'clock, in the Lightning steamer.

MR PRITCHARD.—As we have mentioned Mr Pritchard's name, we will just state that the French papers are mistaken in supposing his recall from Tahiti to be the result of these disturbances. Whether it might have been or not we cannot tell, but it happens that it is not. He was recalled before these disturbances took place, when the temporary French protectorate began, and appointed to the Navigators' Islands, an appointment which has not been affected by events which have taken place since, which is equal in point of emolument and far better suited to Mr Pritchard's abilities than the post he lately filled at Tahiti.—*Times* of yesterday.

General News.

FOREIGN.

FRANCE.

Her Majesty's speech, confirming the assurance that the Tahiti affair was about being amicably adjusted, had not reached any of our Paris contemporaries early enough for publication on Saturday. All the papers doubt the veracity of the *Times* as to the terms of settlement. "The *Times* is in error," says the *Débat*, "as to the nature of the arrangement, both as regards Pritchard and the officers of the French navy." The opposition papers strongly object to the terms of the arrangement.

The celebrations of the victories in Morocco were not yet ended. "Our letters from France," says a contemporary, "represent the court, cabinet, and people as exultant." The flags captured at the battle of the parasol were received with honour equal to that which welcomed the standards of Austerlitz. And the parasol itself is to be brought in a car and sixteen horses to the spot of its nativity in the Rue St. Denis, and there enshrined for the admiration of ages. The King of the French, to express the magnitude of his joy, as well as the magnanimity of his triumph, has sent a monster omnibus as a present to Queen Victoria!

The *Presse* states, that in consequence of a convention concluded between the five great powers, on the 20th of December, 1841, for the suppression of the slave trade, the Prussian government has published an ordinance, by virtue of which the captain, supercargo, and the first pilot of every ship convicted of having been engaged in the slave trade are condemned to hard labour for a period varying from five to twenty years. The same punishment will be inflicted on the owner, the insurer, or on any person advancing funds knowing the destination of the vessel. The crew are to be liable to an imprisonment of from six months to five years, if it be proved that their operation in this trade has been voluntary.

SPAIN.

The Prince de Joinville was at Cadix on the 24th ult. He was to embark in the *Pluton* steamer, to proceed to Oran, where Marshal Bugeaud is to wait for him. He was to go from that place to Bona, to visit the Duke d'Aumale, and thence to return to France by Toulon. A letter from that town, of the 1st, states that all the officers of the navy were ordered to be ready to receive the Prince, who was expected from one moment to another. The sub-prefect had convoked the municipal council extraordinarily, to deliberate on the measures to be taken to give his Royal Highness a fitting reception.

The Commander-general of Cadix had written to the Minister of Marine, on the 24th, to inform him that he had received an official communication from the Prince de Joinville, notifying to the authorities of Cadix that he had declared the harbour of Mogador in a state of blockade.

El Clamor Publico announces that Senor Cayetano, the progresista ex-political chief, had been taken out of the castle of Santa Catalina, transferred on board the mail packet *Corso*, on the 22nd ult., and transported to the Canary islands, without even the form of a trial.

INDIA AND CHINA.

The following telegraphic despatch, dated Malta, September 4th, was published in Monday's paper:

"The Indian mail, which has been expected here for eight days past, has arrived this morning, having left Bombay on the 19th of July. It contains only the news of a mutiny in a Bengal regiment; and of the loss of about eighty reapers (or harvest men) and irregular horse, surprised by the enemy near Shikarpore, and the expectation of a plentiful harvest in consequence of the abundance of the monsoon rains.

"Lord Ellenborough was waiting at Calcutta the arrival of his successor.

"On the 20th of May last, which is the latest date from China, Sir Henry Pottinger was on the eve of his departure from Bombay."

SWEDEN.

The *Times* of Saturday contains the following letter, by which it will be seen that the reformers of Sweden have, for the present, been defeated:—"Stockholm, Aug. 29.—The question of changing the law of parliamentary representation is decided in the negative. The Diet of nobles discussed yesterday this highly important matter, from nine o'clock in the morning till seven o'clock p.m., and the result was the rejection of the project by a majority of 450 against 82. In the Diet of the clergy the debates continue to-day, but it is expected that the project will be thrown out nearly unanimously. The Diet of the citizens has adopted the project by a majority of 47 against 9, and also the Diet of the peasants passed it by a majority of 89 against 14; but as the consent of the four Diets is requisite for making a law of the empire of any project discussed, the present attempt of changing one of the fundamental laws of the country is therefore frustrated."

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

UNITED STATES' STATISTICS.—Taking the population of the United States to be, in round numbers, 17,000,000, the proportion

Employed in agriculture is	12,750,000
Employed in manufactures & trades	1,500,000
Employed in commerce, fisheries, &c.	1,250,000
Employed in mines, forests, &c.....	1,500,000

How important that England, whose population is chiefly commercial and manufacturing, should cultivate commerce with the United States!

A PROBATION SPEECH.—EXEMPLARY CLEARNESS AND BREVITY.—From Nova Scotia we have the following laconic speech of Lord Falkland, on the prorogation of the legislative assembly:—

Mr President and hon. gentlemen of the legislative council—Mr Speaker and gentlemen of the house of assembly—I thank you for the expedition with which you have dispatched the important business that, in obedience to the instructions of her Majesty's government, it became my duty to bring before you, and I have much pleasure in dismissing you to your ordinary avocations.

The *Zara Gazette* states that a severe shock of an earthquake has been felt at Stane, in Dalmatia, which spread consternation throughout the country.

EXTRAORDINARY PHENOMENON AT A GERMAN LAKE.—Several German journals give an account of an extraordinary phenomenon which took place a short time since in the lake near the convent of Lach. While the weather was perfectly serene, the waters of the lake rose in a few minutes, and overflowed the banks on all sides. They, after a short space, again subsided, and retired to a point far lower than their original level, exposing several extensive abysses which had hitherto been unknown. A loud subterranean noise was at the same time heard; the trees on the bank were torn up by the roots; and large crevices formed on the bank. A sulphurous vapour arose, and a great number of fish were observed to float dead on the surface of the water. Many birds were also suffocated with the odour.

DOMESTIC.

METROPOLITAN.

BANK OF ENGLAND.—The first practical effect of the recent alterations in the bank of England appears in the following notice, which was posted at the bank:—"Bank of England, Sept. 5, 1844. At a Court of Directors, held this day, resolved, that the rate of interest for bills and notes discounted at the Bank of England be as follows:—Bills, 2½ per cent.; notes, 3 per cent. Such bills and notes not having more than ninety-five days to run." We (*Chronicle*) suppose that in future the Bank will commence trading upon the footing of any private establishment, and the probable consequence will of course be to make money more abundant than ever. The reduction in the rates of discount will be sensibly felt by country bankers, with whom the establishment of Threadneedle street may now be anticipated to act in open competition.

ELECTION OF CITY CHAMBERLAIN.—The contest for the office of City chamberlain commenced on Thursday. The candidates were Alderman Brown, Alderman Humphery, M.P., and Mr G. P. Heppel, who severally addressed the livery. Mr Daniel Whittle Harvey also delivered a speech, announcing that he had withdrawn from a useless struggle, as none but an alderman could be returned unless the livery took the matter up earnestly; but urging them to vindicate their right to a choice more extensive than the court of aldermen alone. The show of hands was declared to be in favour of Alderman Brown; a large number also being held up for Alderman Humphery; but he retired from the contest. A poll was demanded on behalf of Mr Heppel, and begun at once. That day, Alderman Brown polled 464; Mr Heppel, 14. The poll was closed yesterday by the election of Mr Brown; Mr Heppel having declared that his object in keeping the poll open when he had no chance, was to give all who desired it an opportunity of voting against the aldermen's candidate. The numbers were, for Alderman Brown, 2,101; for Mr Heppel, 61.

BAROLOMEW FAIR, a wreck of what it was, opened on Tuesday morning, last week. The Lord Mayor arrived in his private carriage, attended by the town crier and some inferior officers of the City; they entered the ground by Cloth Fair, the proclamation was read, and the whole proceedings were over in five minutes. No show-booths were allowed; and as a rent of 4s. a foot was demanded by the market committee for ground for gingerbread and toy stalls, the attractions were much diminished. Still the crowd was great. All was over on Thursday night.

MORTALITY IN THE METROPOLIS.—The number of deaths in the metropolis during the week ending Saturday, August 31, was 798, while the weekly average for the last five summers was 900, and for the last five years 946. Of those who died during the last week 428 were under 15 years of age, 240 under 60, and 130 from 60 upwards. The number of males who died was 405, and of females 394. The number of deaths by violence was 26.

FALL IN THE PRICE OF BREAD IN THE METROPOLIS.—In consequence of the favourable accounts received from the agricultural districts of the promising state of the harvest, the price of wheat at Mark lane has fallen this week 1s. to 2s. per quarter in first quality, and 4s. to 5s. per quarter in second qualities. The best Kent, Essex, Norfolk, and Suffolk wheat is at 39s. to 46s. per quarter; flour, fine, 40s. to 46s.; and seconds, 39s. to 40s. per sack. The bakers yesterday, in the Blackfriars road, the New Cut, Westminster, Whitechapel, Minorities, Bishopsgate, Tottenham Court road, and other populous parts of the metropolis, reduced the 4lb. loaf to 6d.

REMARKABLE COINCIDENCE.—We recorded, in our last week's number, the melancholy death of Dr Carson, of Tobermore, who, while waiting for the steamer, to convey him to Belfast, on the 16th of August, looking at his watch, fell into the water, and expired in consequence, on the 24th. On Saturday last, as William Carson, servant of Lieutenant Swinton, was returning from a convict ship lying off Woolwich, he stepped into a wherry, and losing his balance through the swell caused by a steamer passing, fell over and disappeared; he has left a widow with seven children.

SOUTH ISLINGTON AND PENTONVILLE BRITISH SCHOOLS.—On Wednesday last a public examination of the boys took place at these schools, under the superintendence of C. Hindley, Esq., M.P., who, prompted by that deep interest in the cause of education which so eminently distinguishes him, most kindly undertook to preside on the occasion. The large school-room in Denmark terrace, Islington, was crowded by a numerous and respectable assembly; the Revs. Dr Bennett, Ridley Herschell, Peter Lorimer, — Allom, and other ministers and gentlemen of the neighbourhood, being in attendance on the platform. The meeting having been opened with prayer by Mr Herschell, the Chairman delivered an appropriate address, introductory to the examination of the children, which was conducted chiefly by Mr Althaus, of the British and Foreign School Society, several other gentlemen, however, participating in it. This examination was both extensive in its range and searching in its character, including topics of scripture history and the fundamental doctrines of the Christian faith, together with several branches of general knowledge, such as grammar, geography, mental arithmetic, natural history, natural philosophy, and so forth. It is not to be expected that the replies of the children would furnish much matter of general interest; but in one point we may especially mention they were highly satisfactory, as showing conclusively that, in schools conducted on the British system, sound religious instruction, truly scriptural and Christian, may be successfully communicated without any infringement of those rights of conscience which the British system so justly and jealously regards. One answer (or rather two answers) of the children may be cited in illustration of the efficacy of the method of tuition adopted in these schools in rousing the mind, as well as restoring the memory. Mr Althaus having inquired who was the chief among the sons of Jacob, some of the boys replied in favour of Judah, while others asserted the pre-eminence of Joseph. Each class of replicants being requested to give the reasons of their choice, the adherents to Judah quoted the text—"The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be;" while the rest claimed the preference for Joseph, because of his power in Egypt. These different answers certainly appeared to exhibit striking proofs that the understandings of the children, as well as the memories, were at work. At the close of the examination, Mr Hindley, in a very apposite manner, awarded to four of the boys a silver medal each, which he had liberally ordered to be cast expressly for the purpose. It is worthy of notice that these boys were selected as recipients of the prizes by the suffrages of their companions; this being deemed the most effectual mode of ascertaining those individuals in the school whose character and conduct had been upon the whole most meritorious. The children having sung the national anthem (very creditably, both to themselves and to their master), and the thanks of the meeting having been unanimously voted to the Chairman, he retired, and the assembly separated amid the hearty and deafening cheers of the little ones.—*Chronicle*.

THE REVISING BARRISTERS will open their courts in the city of London, on the 16th instant. Other places will immediately follow their example. In a fortnight the sittings of these courts will be general throughout the country.

ABRIDGMENT OF THE HOURS OF BUSINESS.—The most respectable booksellers, grocers, chemists milliners, &c., and shopkeepers, excepting provision and other refreshment shops, have commenced now to open at seven o'clock in the morning and close their doors at eight in the evening, excepting Saturday night, then one hour later, and they are about making arrangements to close at seven o'clock during November, December, January, and February.

NOBLE INSTANCE OF FORGIVENESS.—At Lambeth Street Police office last week, R. Harvey, a coal whipper, was charged with having committed a most violent and brutal assault on Lawrence Sculley, another coal whipper, at a public house, by striking him on the face with a quart pot in such a manner that he completely broke his nose, the end of which dropped on the floor. The face of complainant presented a frightful appearance. Part of the organ the poor fellow held in his hand. The prosecutor informed the magistrate that he did not wish to press the charge, as the prisoner was a hard-working man with a large family. Mr Norton: What not wish to punish him after that savage assault? The prosecutor: No, your worship. I don't want to hurt him, he has only knocked off a small bit of the end of the nose, which I have in my hand, and it will mend in time. The magistrate said the prosecutor evinced a very Christian spirit, and told the prisoner to make him some compensation. The parties shortly returned into the office, and the magistrate asked what the prisoner had given him? The prosecutor said, nothing, but he would pay his witness for loss of time, and that was all that was required. Mr Norton: Oh, no, I cannot permit that, the case is too serious. The prosecutor: Please your worship, he has a large family, and if you will forgive him, I shall sleep all the better. At the earnest solicitation of the complainant, the prisoner was then discharged.

INCREASE OF NAVAL ESTABLISHMENT.—We learn, now that the differences lately on the eve of causing a rupture between this country and France are amicably adjusted, it is the intention of our naval administration, in order that they may not be blamed for being caught in so very unpleasant and inefficient a predicament on any future occasion as on the late, quietly to increase our naval strength by commissioning six or eight sail of the line and a few 50 gun frigates.

PROVINCIAL.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS FOR EDUCATION.—Five interesting and important meetings, in aid of the great educational movement, were held last week at Stroud, Dursley, Stonehouse, and Rodborough. The immediate aim of these meetings is the raising of a sum of £250,000 in five years, by the congregational body alone. The meetings were well attended; and the subscriptions far exceeded what could have been expected from congregations of whom the great bulk are persons of extremely limited means. The chief speakers were the Rev. Messrs Wheeler, Smith, Backhouse, and other ministers of the different congregations and chapels of the district, assisted by the Rev. Dr Redford, of Worcester; the Rev. M. Brown, M.A., of Highbury chapel, Cheltenham; and J. C. Symons, Esq. The tone, spirit, and eloquence of the speeches were of the highest order; and not a little stimulus and hopefulness was given to the movement by the prominent part taken, and personal zeal evinced, by Samuel Marling, Esq., one of the leading manufacturers of the west of England. —*Cheltenham Examiner*.

TRIUMPH OF MR O'CONNELL.—The sole and engrossing subject of conversation in town yesterday, amongst all classes, was the virtual triumph of Mr O'Connell over the Irish government and their abettors. The feeling was, of course, various; bigoted Tories and rabid Orangemen being overwhelmed with mortification and disappointment, at a moment when they thought themselves sure of their prisoner; the liberals congratulating each other on the triumph of constitutional doctrines—and the great bulk of our Irish population in perfect transports of delight. This feeling was manifested last night by spontaneous illuminations of their dwellings, particularly in Thomas street and the neighbourhood. —*Liverpool Mercury*.

A FACT FOR LORD ASHLEY.—Such is the demand for labour in the manufacturing districts of this Riding, arising out of the briskness of trade, and the great increase of that much-abused and vituperated machinery, especially power-looms, that there is the greatest difficulty in procuring servants for domestic purposes, the female population very much preferring employment in the mills to domestic servitude; nor do we much wonder at this preference, when it is known that females can earn at the power-loom from 10s. to 15s. per week, at the least laborious and most cleanly occupation in a mill, leaving their work as neatly clad, and their persons as cleanly, as if they had been all day employed at their needle; and with a very different result to either the London female shirt makers, or the able-bodied Dorsetshire agricultural labourers. Would it not be quite as well if Lord Ashley would, for a short period, suspend his persevering efforts to extract the most from his neighbour's eye, until he has succeeded in plucking the beam from his own? —*Leeds Mercury*.

GAME LAWS.—As a proof of the injury the tenant farmer sustains by these iniquitous laws, we may mention the case of a tenant on the estate of a wealthy baronet, near Ipswich, who, within the last three years, has lost £700 from the ravages made upon his crops by his landlord's hares. The redress he has obtained is leave to quit the occupation a year before his lease expires, which was gladly accepted, and he now waits anxiously for the day when he can escape from the boasted "protection" under which he, with others of his brother farmers, have been so sadly fleeced. —*Suffolk Chronicle*.

MEETING OF THE WORKING CLASSES.—A public meeting was held on Monday, the 2nd of September, at the independent chapel, Goatsacre, Wilts, where upwards of three hundred attended. Mr Read, of Goatsacre, was called to the chair. The object of the meeting was to explain the rules and objects of a society formed in Goatsacre for political and moral information. The chairman, on opening the meeting, pointed out in a very clear manner the rights and privileges of the working classes, and the necessity of their uniting to strive against ignorance, and to endeavour, upon sound constitutional principles, to regain their rights. The following objects of the society were then read to the meeting:—

"1st. To obtain, by every legal and just means, the repeal of the corn laws, and all restrictions on trade and commerce; 2nd. To inquire into the state of the working classes, and point out the cause of their distress; 3rd. To promote a union among all classes, and to guide and direct the public mind into uniform, peaceful, and legitimate operations; 4th. To collect and organise the peaceful expression of public opinion, so as to bring it to act upon the legislative functions in a just, legal, and effectual way; 5th. To consider the means of organising a system of operations whereby the public press may be influenced to act generally in support of the interests of the people."

The chairman then proposed that an address be forwarded to Mr John Arkell, thanking him for the kind manner in which he has come among us to advocate the cause of the working classes. It was carried unanimously; as was also the following resolution:—

"That this meeting think it highly necessary to call upon the inhabitants of Wootton Bassett to sign an address requesting the Right Hon. the Earl of Radnor, the Hon. Charles Villiers, M.P., Mr Cobden, M.P., J. Edridge, Esq., and Mr J. Arkell, to attend a public meeting in the town of Wootton Bassett, to discuss the principles of free trade."

—*Wiltshire Independent*.

PUBLIC WALKS.—The town council of Preston, to its honour, is making active exertions for the recreation of the people. At a meeting of the 29th ult., the mayor (John Addison, Esq.) referred to the projected purchase of a piece of land, to prevent its appropriation to building purposes, and to extend Avenham walk. Government, he stated, had ex-

pressed its willingness to aid in laying out the ground.

He had lately visited several of the cities in Normandy, and was pleased to see that in almost every town there were public walks and gardens. He had visited Germany also; and in those towns, formerly guarded by walls, barricades, and ditches, great changes he found had taken place. These walls, barricades, and ditches were pulled down, and their sites converted into public walks. At Frankfort, Worms, Aix-la-Chapelle, and other places, this change was very great. At Worms especially, which did not contain one-fifth of the population of Preston, he found those public improvements going on to a great extent, and gardens were formed decorated with all kinds of plants and shrubs. Not a flower was plucked, not a shrub injured, not a bed trampled upon.

On the motion of Alderman Jackson, it was resolved that the land should be purchased, and that negotiations should be entered into for the purchase of other property also, so that "a continuous public walk and garden" might be made "from Avenham walk to West Cliff."

PETITION TO PARLIAMENT AGAINST SENDING SOLDIERS TO FOREIGN AND COLONIAL COUNTRIES.—The following is a copy of a petition from 1,240 of the inhabitants of Reading, including ministers of various religious denomination, and a large number of freeholders and other electors, which was lately sent to London for presentation to parliament:—

"To the Commons of Great Britain and Ireland, in Parliament assembled."

"The petition of the undersigned inhabitants of Reading and neighbourhood"

"Respectfully sheweth,—

"That your petitioners observe with deep concern, that the practice continues of sending soldiers from these kingdoms to various foreign and colonial stations."

"That a large proportion of the troops sent abroad, consist of young men who have left their civil pursuits through the oppressions on industry, and entered the army—ignorant of the sufferings attendant on military life."

"That your petitioners are informed and believe, that during the last three years, or thereabouts, there have perished in the British dependencies, and in adjacent countries, upwards of twelve thousand soldiers, natives of the United Kingdom."

"That the annual mortality among one thousand soldiers, under thirty years of age, stationed in Jamaica, is upwards of one hundred and forty; and that in the various garrisons in India, China, and Bermuda, the deaths are fearfully numerous, so that comparatively few British soldiers from these settlements ever return home."

"Your petitioners desire to express their conviction, that no government has a right to require of citizens services so dreadful, and attended with such awful sacrifice of human life."

"They therefore beseech the House of Commons, as the trustees of the people, not to sanction, by votes of money, or otherwise, any further embarkation of troops from the United Kingdom to foreign or colonial countries."

Note.—The annual mortality among one thousand young men, aged from twenty to thirty years, following the pursuits of civil life in Great Britain, is stated to be fifteen. 1844.

THE ATHENIC INSTITUTION, BIRMINGHAM.—This institution, lately established in Birmingham, on a plan somewhat different from mechanics' institutes, &c., is thus described in the *Birmingham Journal*:—

"About three years ago four respectable young men, desirous of cultivating their minds, and avoiding the gross irregularities to which, unfortunately, too many youths of the present day are subject, resolved upon establishing a society by which they could engage their attention during their leisure hours in useful mental pursuits and rational amusements and recreation. They accordingly collected together some twenty young men of their own age, submitted their plans, and formed themselves into an institution bearing the name which heads this article. They divided themselves into reading, writing, arithmetical, drawing, and other useful classes; to which they added arrangements for the enjoyment of the old manly English sports, dancing, &c. For some time they continued on a small scale, aiding in improving each other; until, finding their number increasing, they took large rooms in Great Charles street, which they tastefully fitted up, and forthwith issued an address declaratory of the objects of the institution."

Lord John Manners consented to become the patron of the institution, and a few days since was, with other members of the "Young England" party, invited to a public dinner with the members. Sir J. Hanmer and Mr Monckton Milnes were also present. The speeches of the principal guests were full of expressions of warm interest for the mental and material improvement of the working classes. Mr Newton, one of the officers of the institution, alluded to its nature in the course of his speech:—

He said "it was based upon the only principles suited to the state of the working classes, namely, that of affording education through recreation and relaxation. They had discovered that the minds of the people were beaten down with care, labour, and anxiety, and unfitted for mental study. They gave them amusement, restored their spirits, and then gently instilled that learning from which they would otherwise have recoiled. Why had the Mechanics' Institute, the Athenæum, and other institutions in Birmingham, become defunct? The working men did not avail themselves of the opportunity it afforded; and then came the question, why did they not do so? Why had all the societies formed for their use and benefit failed? Why were they not supported and attended to by the working classes? The answer was plain—it was short, but it was conclusive. Because they could not [hear, hear]. They were overworked [applause]. Their animal spirits were destroyed, their physical energies impaired, and their mental faculties weakened by work, work, work [applause]. Suppose a poor young man, toiling all day in a manufactory in intense heat, and literally wasted off the earth with steam, smoke, and toil; suppose such a man sent from the mill or the forge, at eight or nine o'clock at night, into a school to learn from a book—why he would be asleep in three minutes [hear, hear]. He could not learn; it was not in human nature that he could do so."

There is much truth in these sentiments, and we rejoice that an attempt is being made to remedy the evil, here so forcibly depicted, as the following paragraph, from the *Birmingham Journal* of Saturday last, will show:—

"A meeting is advertised to take place at the Guildhall, on Monday evening next, at seven o'clock, of masters, apprentices, and shopmen, with a view to bring about the early payment of wages, and to take other steps to shorten the hours of business, and to provide a library for the intellectual improvement of those whose leisure will be increased by the change. The committee announce that arrangements are being made with the council of the "Literary and Philosophical Institution," to meet the above end. The gentlemen employed to canvass the different masters, with a view to the early payment of wages, report that their proposals have met with very general approbation."

The *Spectator*, in recommending the formation of associations similar to the Birmingham Athenic Institution throughout the country, says, "Our sole objection is to its pseudo-classical title: let those towns that imitate Birmingham in deed take a better name—boldly assume that the institution will become characteristic of the nation, and call their associations by a title hopefully significant in its generality and plainness—English Societies."

HARVEST IN SOUTH WALES.—Our letters from all parts of the country contain extremely favourable reports of the harvest. South Wales has not had so good a harvest for many a year. The grain is now well nigh housed, there being left but little to carry, and that only of comparatively small patches on the hills. The crops generally are above an average in quality as well as in yield. The weather during the past week has been all that could be desired, the temperature having been high; plenty of sun, and not a drop of rain for several days together. More glorious harvest weather, or better crops of all kinds, Wales has seldom been blessed with by a supreme superintending Providence. —*Welshman*.

ATTEMPTS TO UPSET A RAILWAY TRAIN.—On Friday evening last, as the mail train on the Bristol and Gloucester railway was passing near the Dursley station, it passed over a gate which had been maliciously thrown across the line. Fortunately, the impediment was crushed to pieces without causing any injury to the train. On the previous week an iron bar and a hurdle were thrown on the line near the same spot, which luckily caused no damage. On Tuesday the train was run off the line, near the Birmingham and Gloucester junction, but was fortunately stopped before any serious accident occurred. The passengers were, however, much frightened, and were conveyed to their destination in other carriages.

DEATH OF THE GIPSY KING.—A few days since, died near Beaulieu, Joseph Lee, the acknowledged monarch of that mysterious class of people the gipsies. He was a native of Brokenhurst, in the New Forest, and was, it is said, in his 86th year. He was the progenitor of a long line of descendants, having left behind him a large assemblage of aged children, grand children, and great grand children. He is reported to have died worth a great deal of money. Indeed, some years ago, when Charity Lee was married to one of the Stanleys, old Joseph Lee presented her, upon the occasion, with one hundred spade guineas, besides trinkets, and several pieces of plate furniture. About 60 years ago he was in the habit of traveling the country around Southampton, Ramsey, Lymington, and Ringwood, as a razor grinder, and was well-known in those neighbourhoods under the sobriquet of "Gipsy Joe." It is observed, that "Joe" in his day, had dabbled in almost every department of the black art, and with the exception of having upon three or four occasions mistook his way into Winchester gaol, he had managed to play his cards with more than ordinary success. He was the boon companion of the notorious Peter Warren and Billy Dear, the two greatest contraband adventurers that ever risked life and property in the pursuit of hazardous and perilous undertakings on the south-western coast of England. The prodigious freights of illicit spirits this gang used to work, some fifty years since, is incalculable. Sometimes they would be accidentally met with a caravan of one hundred ponies and upwards, laden with tubs, passing into the forest, where they were wont to conceal the traffic until a favourable opportunity presented itself to them to remove the same with safety to some more inland mart for the sale of it. Nor were the "Waltham Blacks" in their day more formidable for deer stealing in Waltham chase than was Gipsy Joe and his party in the New Forest. Smuggling, deer stealing, poaching, and occasionally selling a few ponies at the various fairs, were Joe's mottled avocations. His artifices and manoeuvres were so skilfully managed, that he successfully eluded the vigilance of the New Forest keepers, and no farm house larder lacked a haunch of venison when Gipsy Joe was at hand. He was in the forest what Jonathan Wild was in town—up to every trick, and down upon every move. In his political administration he was remarkable for one act which took place in his reign, viz., that of excommunicating, in person, about three years ago, a gipsy of the name of Lee from the sybilline fraternity, for some act the latter had committed against the rules and regulations of the order. The ceremony was performed before a very large assembly of the various tribes, and though extremely novel had a very imposing effect.

WITCHCRAFT IN 1844.—Not long since, the resting-place of the dead at Phillack, near Hayle, was made the scene of transactions which would have blackened the darkest ignorance of bygone ages. It appears that several persons afflicted with disease, and who, for want of moral courage, would not submit to the directions of their medical advisers, very readily caught hold of and applied every nostrum that gossips made known. Experience proving that the

boasted remedies were of no avail, their imaginations were put to the utmost stretch, in order that they might avoid the only method by which they could be cured. Fortunately, a blazing light shot across their darkened way, and their gloomy reflections were dissipated by its brilliancy. It was a revelation; and they denounced their ignorance, because they did not sooner find out the cause of their malady. To believe that they were ill-wished was only the work of a moment, but to discover a person who could break the spell was not so easily accomplished. Every thought and action was centred in attaining their darling object. Finally, their wish was consummated, and a scatterer of witches' spells stalked forth from Helston, to whom they disclosed every incident of their lives, fraught with uncertainty as tending to good or evil. The day was chosen, the dread hour of midnight fixed, and the abode of the silent clod of all that once was living was named as the place of assignation. The hour drew near, but their purpose became known from the impulse of their ecstasies, and their stealthy actions were closely watched. The asked-for fee was immediately given, and, after silence was enjoined, the churchyard wall was scaled. Then the spell-breaker commenced the mysteries of his art, by making mysterious sounds and performing mysterious actions, as he walked over the dead, hotly pressed by his frightened dupes. Having walked many times round the church, the doors and windows opened and shut at his bidding. Then he commanded them to remain open, and, as they were passed in succession, he brought the persons who had ill-wished them to their face. Thus the spell was broken and dissolved, and a faith given that their cure would be speedily effected. Some days have since elapsed, and either their faith has failed, or the witch-spell is not broken, for their disease still maintains its ground, the effect of a visible cause.—*West Briton*.

SUICIDE OF TWO GAMEKEEPERS.—The following is the official report, by the coroner, of the suicide of William Easy and John Cucksey, gamekeepers of the Earl of Stradbroke, in Suffolk:—Inquisitions taken before Mr Sparrowe, coroner.—On Monday last, at Henham, the seat of the Right Hon. the Earl of Stradbroke, on view of the body of William Easy, aged fifty-four, one of the gamekeepers of the noble earl, who, on Saturday last, destroyed himself by shooting himself through the head in one of the covers near his dwelling. The deceased had tied a twig of osier round the butt end of his gun, and connected it with the lock in such a manner as to enable him to pull the trigger, and placing the end of the barrel in his mouth, discharged the contents of the barrel through his head, which was literally blown to pieces. It appeared from the evidence of several witnesses, that the deceased had for some time past been in a very low dejected state of mind, and his intellect at times was much disordered; and the jury returned a verdict of "insanity." On the same day, on the body of John Cucksey, aged 56, also a gamekeeper, in the service of the Earl of Stradbroke, whose death, proceeding from a similar catastrophe, and so immediately following that of Mr Easy, excited the most intense interest in the neighbourhood. It was stated in evidence, by Richard Andrews, that he had gone, on Sunday evening last, to the cottage of Mr Ludlow, adjoining that of the deceased; that while sitting in Ludlow's room, about seven o'clock, he saw John Cucksey go into his house with his wife and three children, as if from a walk, and that deceased could not have been in the house more than two minutes when he heard the report of a gun in deceased's house, and hearing the screams of his wife and children, he ran down stairs, and went round to the house; and there saw the deceased lying on the carpet of the room, and his wife stooping to extinguish the fire which had communicated to his shirt and waistcoat. His gun was lying on the floor, with the butt-end next his feet. He was quite dead. Mr Lay, surgeon, of Wangford, stated that he was sent for on Sunday evening, and arrived at the house a short time before eight o'clock; he found the deceased lying dead on the carpet, with a gun at his feet, one barrel of which was recently discharged; his shirt and clothes had been burnt considerably. He found a large wound under the jaw, from which considerable hemorrhage was flowing—the wound proceeding upwards into the head, was instantly fatal. He had attended the deceased for some time past, as he had been unwell. He had had a fall from his horse, and suffered from a pain in his side; saw him on Sunday morning, when he seemed very low, and said he had had a bad night. He saw him also on Saturday morning, after Easy's death, which had shocked him much, and he appeared much excited and distressed about it. It further appeared in evidence, that the deceased, on entering his house, had complained of being very chilly, and desired his wife to get some coals and light a fire; and while she was gone into the yard to get the coals the catastrophe occurred. The gun, it appeared, was suspended from the beam by a couple of holdfasts, one of which, supporting the stock of the gun, was found on the floor near where the gun laid. The ceiling of the room was very low, so much so, that any one passing through the room with his hat on would come in contact with the beam and gun as it hung. This circumstance, and the holdfast being found upon the floor, coupled with the remarkable fact of the gun going off so immediately after the entrance of the deceased and his family, it having been positively stated to have been not more than two minutes, considerable doubt existed in the minds of the coroner and jury whether the deceased had inflicted the injury upon himself, and, after considerable deliberation, the latter returned a verdict—"That deceased died from a gun-shot wound through the head, but whether in-

flicted by his own hand, or the effect of accident, sufficient evidence thereof did not appear to the jurors."

EXECUTION AT TAUNTON.—Joel Fisher, the old soldier who killed his wife, was hanged on Wednesday, near Taunton, in the presence of 5,000 persons. Several applications were made to the governor of the prison by persons afflicted with king's evil and rheumatism, for permission that the hand of the dead man might be rubbed over the parts affected, with the idea that they would be cured! The inn in which the murder was committed is resorted to by numberless persons, who are shown the blood-stained bed-room, the scene of the fatal deed! A fellow from London, on hearing of the tragic event, hastened down, and engaged the premises with the view to a profitable speculation!

IRELAND.

LIBERATION OF THE STATE PRISONERS.

At a few minutes after five o'clock on Thursday evening, the all-important intelligence of the reversal of the judgment of the Irish Court of Queen's Bench reached Dublin, and in a few minutes the news spread like wildfire through the city. All parties, by common consent as it were, had been prepared for a contrary decision; and men stared at each other, as if doubting the evidence of their senses. At six o'clock the joy bells of the Roman cathedral church of St Paul, on Arran quay, commenced a merry peal in honour of the event; and troops of anxious faces were to be seen thronging the streets with silent triumph depicted in their countenances. The *Morning Chronicle* reporter, who went over in the steamer which conveyed the glad tidings, describes in graphic terms its effect on the people:—

As the mail steamer, the *Medusa*, neared the pier of Kingstown, it was observed that there was on the jetty a large collection of persons of all classes—the richly clad and the miserably poor. The traversers' solicitors had provided themselves in London with flags, on which were inscribed the words, "Triumph of law and justice—the judgment reversed," "O'Connell is free." It had been intended, by means of these flags, to notify the defeat of the government long before the ship could touch the land; but as the captain of the vessel represented that such a display might be objected to by the admiralty, the flags were not unfurled until those who bore them had stepped on shore. The solicitors, and several of those on deck, waved their hats; a movement was instantly perceivable in the crowd, but no response was made to the intimation that was thus conveyed to them. Again the hats were waved on deck, and a cheer was given. It was not responded to; but the instant the faces of the solicitors were recognised—that it was seen that the cheerers were Mr Mahony, Mr Ford, Mr Cantwell, and one of the able counsel of the traversers, Mr O'Hagan, then indeed was every hat raised in the air, and a cheer burst from the multitude, so vehement, so earnest, and so fierce, that in its excitement of exultation it pierced the ear as if it was a shriek. "O'Connell is free!" was rung forth by the stentorian voice of Mr Ford, and the word "free" was echoed back again in a hundred voices. Men rushed tumultuously forward to the very brink of the pier, and seemed ready to bound across the space of waters that yet separated them from those who came the messengers of such joyful tidings. All was confusion, all excitement on shore; whilst the only words that could be heard were "free," "free," "Is O'Connell free?" and whilst men bounded and shouted aloud for joy, there was not a woman present whose hands did not seem clasped together, as if she were engaged in prayer. At last the vessel reached the land, and then the flag-bearers, jumping on shore, displayed them fully to view, and as the words were repeated by the tongues of many men aloud, shouts and blessings rung around from every side. The appearance of the flags seemed to produce a magical effect; it looked as if the population had been, like Clan Alpine's men in "The Lady of the Lake," concealing themselves from view until a certain signal was given; for the moment that the white banners fluttered in the air, men, women, and children were seen hurrying in thousands down towards the pier. There was no point within view on which persons might not be observed collected—in the windows of Kingstown, upon the roads at a distance, or, farther on again, from the lowly cabins, there were men waving handkerchiefs, or hats, or lifting their hands in air, exhibiting how enthusiastically they participated in the general joy.

Even the railway train to Dublin was made the means of communicating the glad intelligence to all in the neighbourhood of the line—the engineers having decorated the engine with one of the great banners. At the railway terminus the demonstrations of joy were repeated on a grander scale by the immense crowd there assembled. Messrs Ford, Cantwell, and Mahony, the traversers' solicitors, hurried on to the gaol with the joyful news through streets crowded with dense masses of rejoicing people, every face, says the reporter, down to the very policemen, beaming with joy. There was a universal movement towards Richmond Penitentiary:—

When I reached the gaol, I perceived crowds hurrying in all directions towards it—on horseback, on foot, on cars; and in many places I observed that the carmen had deserted their stands in a body, forgetting themselves and their chances of employment, in order that they might be the sooner at the gaol, "to hear the news about the liberator." Shops, houses, all things were left to chance, whilst every habitation seemed to push forth its inmates to hear the great tidings of him whom I have more than once to-day heard distinguished as "our own father." Hundreds were clamouring at the gate to see him, and greet him: but admission was, as a matter of course, refused.

Mr O'Connell's reception of the news:—

Upon being conducted to Mr O'Connell's apartments, I found him and his friends in the very flush of the triumph, which was now officially, it may be said, announced to them. Large as the apartments are, allotted to Mr O'Connell's use, they were swarming now with a crowd. He bore the intelligence with the same calmness that it was manifest he would have shown had it been of an opposite nature. His lip, and his eye, and the cordial grasp of his hand, showed his joy, and how

deeply he felt the sympathy exhibited towards him, but he was not in the slightest degree shaken by the intelligence. He was overwhelmed with gratulations upon gratulations, that came pouring in upon him, in fresh accessions of old and steadfast friends, who rushed to his place of confinement to bid him joy.

Upon turning to look at the other traversers, I perceived that none had suffered from their confinement—that all looked like men who felt that they had been unjustly persecuted, and were determined to scorn and defy the worst efforts of their worst foes; that all—Mr John O'Connell, Mr Duffy, Dr Gray, Mr Barrett, Mr Steele, and the secretary of the Repeal Association, Mr Ray, were, if it were possible, improved in health.

The following incident shows the estimation in which Mr O'Connell is held, not merely by his own supporters, but by others with whom he has happened to come in contact.

At length dinner was announced, and comparative quiet was for some time restored. During the time that Mr O'Connell, with his son, and the families of the traversers, with some of his most attached friends, such as Mr Taunton of the *Register*, Mr Bianconi (whose name and enterprise are so well known in Ireland), with Mr R. V. Fitzpatrick, Mr Cuan, and others, were dining, a gentleman was seen hurrying into the room, evidently much excited, and saying, "Good God! can it be true?" I observed that every eye was turned towards him, and I was struck with the deep feeling of respect and veneration that was painted on the features of all; but a cry was raised by some of the ladies. They had observed this gentleman to stagger as he was advancing towards Mr O'Connell. He fell exhausted into a chair, and it was some time before he recovered. When he had done so, he was merely able to say, or rather to sob forth, as he grasped the hand of Mr O'Connell, "I come, sir, to congratulate you on what I have heard." This gentleman (Mr Pardon, the governor of the penitentiary), I have been assured, was an Orangeman, is a high Tory, an ardent supporter of the Peel administration.

As the sheriff had intimated to the governor of the prison that Mr O'Connell and his fellow-traversers were to be liberated the moment the order from the House of Lords had arrived, they were of course no longer regarded as subjected in any respect to the strict rules of the prison, and directions were given that as many as they chose to admit to their presence should be allowed to see them. From an early hour on Friday morning hundreds upon hundreds of the middle classes came pouring into the prison. Those who came upon political matters, or to make arrangements as to the procession of Saturday, were admitted to an audience of Mr O'Connell, and then proceeded personally to pay their respects to the other traversers. So many and so incessant were these calls, that it was found the prison rooms could not conveniently contain the numbers that pressed for a sight of Mr O'Connell, and he was finally obliged to descend to the gardens, wherein ladies and gentlemen, and children, in vast numbers kept crowding around him, each contenting himself with pressing his hand, uttering a fervent prayer for his welfare, and then passing on. The same course was observed with the other traversers, and wherever they were found, they were each and all entreated to write their names. Large coloured cards, with richly embossed borders, had been procured for this purpose; and to what extent these signatures had been looked for may be learned from the fact, that so early as two, Mr Duffy, of the *Nation*, assured me he could not have written his name less than twelve hundred times. Such was the scene exhibited in the gardens of Richmond Penitentiary during the day. It began early in the morning—it lasted until dinner hour, when for the last time the prisoners and their friends met within the walls of a prison.

The order of the House of Lords had been brought by Mr Gartland. The usual formalities were gone through, and it was announced to Mr O'Connell and the other traversers, that "they were FREE." We have the following instance of the state of organisation, of perfect order, of the earnest desire to maintain the peace, that prevails among the poorer classes in Dublin:—

During the day thousands had been gathering around the prison, to see Mr O'Connell quitting its walls, and as the evening approached, their numbers were momentarily increased. The police were sent for, to secure the public peace as Mr O'Connell returned through the streets. He wished, he said, to have the peace preserved, and declared that, if the populace were left to his management, not one should be impeded in his passage whilst he walked home, for that was the mode of returning he preferred, rather than go in his carriage.

What then occurred? In the midst of their joy, their exultation, their triumph, that portion of the population that in other cities are designated the mob, here ranged themselves in close files; each grasped the other firmly by the hand; they pressed together in such a manner as to leave a space, a free space, for Mr O'Connell and the traversers, from Richmond penitentiary to Merrion square, a distance, I think, of about two miles, at least; and thus it was, that there was given a most extraordinary instance, of his influence and their subordination, to the world.

When Mr O'Connell reached Merrion square, there were about 15,000 persons present. Their acclamations never once subsided as Mr O'Connell approached; but when he actually placed his foot upon the step to ascend to his own door, there was an outpouring of popular acclamation which has never been surpassed. In a few moments after, Mr O'Connell entered his house, and presented himself at the balcony. He frequently essayed to address the assemblage; but his words were drowned in the reiterated acclamations that ascended from the vast multitude, and several minutes elapsed before their enthusiasm became sufficiently subdued to permit them to listen, even to him. At length, during brief intervals of silence, he spoke to the following effect:—

Why you seem—[cheers]. It seems as if you were glad to see me home again [tremendous cheering and waving of hats]. This house is my own honest home

[cheering for several minutes]; but I have come home from a prison [cheers]. In other countries they send the rogues to prison, and leave the honest men at home; but many a paltry rogue was left at home while I was confined within the walls of a gaol [immense cheering]. But God is stronger than our enemies [cheers]—and thanks be to that God [great sensation] I am here to-night in my own home [cheers]. The rogues are at home too, but do they feel as comfortable to-night as I do [cheers]? The foul attempt to destroy the sacred right of petition, to violate the jury box, and trample the constitution in my person—that foul and felonious attempt has signally failed [loud cheers]. The people of Ireland have gained a mighty victory, and well have they deserved that victory—they have—the moral, the temperate, the religious people of Ireland [tremendous cheering]. In their hundred thousand strength they were mild as the playful lamb that crops the herbage as it passes along, and such mildness will they show in their might at present [tremendous cheering]. Oh, but we'll have *ala bra pleasa* to-morrow [loud cheers]; but no man shall be harmed; no man shall be insulted or offended; there shall not even be a groan [cheering]. We will laugh to-morrow, and keep the groaning for another day. I did not make a speech these three months [tremendous cheering and waving of hats]. I did not make a speech these three months, so my pipe is a little out of tune [cheers]. In the meetings of 1843—the glorious meetings of 1843—they called them monster meetings [cheers]—because such assemblages could not be peacefully collected in any country on earth except our own—not a blow was struck—not a glass of whisky drunk—not even an accident occurred [cheers]. No one was shoved, or crushed, or pressed upon [great cheering]. Oh! it could happen nowhere but amongst the courteous people of Ireland—the people of Ireland that are kind to one another—the Christian people of Ireland [cheers]—and now, blessed be God! we are here to-night rejoicing [deep sensation]. We shall have no tumult to-morrow—a little shout we will have, and some cheering—the happy bird must chirrup [tremendous cheering]. And now go home in quiet, and tell every one you meet that we are to assemble to-morrow in peace and happiness [cheers]. And then go to your rest, having first offered up your thanksgiving to the Almighty, that he has vouchsafed to look in mercy upon his people of Ireland, and I promise you we will have the repeal [tremendous cheering].

The Liberator having retired from the balcony, the Head Pacificator then came forward, and, waving his hand to the people, cried out "Home, home;" and then they moved away, passing the house of the Liberator in one dense deep stream, and at half-past seven o'clock Merriion square was silent, or disturbed only by the footsteps of the casual passenger.

THE PROCESSION.

Saturday morning opened inauspiciously—the rain descended in torrents. This, however, did not repress the popular enthusiasm, for, at an early hour, crowds were collected in Merriion square and the neighbourhood of Richmond penitentiary, despite the descending rain. The traversers were early at the prison, where they breakfasted. Ere they bade adieu to its walls, Mr O'Connell performed a generous act:—

He inquired the names of all who were in the prison, incarcerated by reason of the non-payment of fines imposed upon them, and he directed that all whose characters were good should have their fines paid for them. This order liberated about forty prisoners, or gave them the option of being liberated, if they chose to pay the fines. Some, whose punishment was to expire in a few days, preferred keeping the money, as they had already mostly discharged their fines by their personal sufferings.

About eleven the rain ceased, and a bright burst of sunshine came to make the general joy complete. At that time there were thousands collected along the lines leading from Merriion square to the prison. In the front of the gaol there is a road about two hundred feet wide, and beyond that fields extending towards the city for about a quarter of a mile, where they are then closed in by houses. This was the position occupied by the population. Instead of the crowds being jumbled together, it was observed that they formed lines within lines.

It was not until twelve that the first portion of the procession reached Richmond penitentiary, and it was not until two o'clock the triumphal car reached the doors of the prison. During those two hours thousands upon thousands defiled before the gaol in one unbroken line of full-grown men. There was a wide space kept for them by the people themselves, unaided by a single policeman, the entire population obeying on the instant the signal or the voice of Mr Thomas Reynolds, the city marshal. This vast mass of human beings was only broken up into sections by the bands of music preceding the flags or carriages of the different trades, the players being all dressed in fancy uniforms, and wearing colours of the most vivid description—light blue, pink, green—everything that could attract and gratify the eye; whilst, as to the banners and carriages that were displayed, some of them were of the most gorgeous description. The trades were followed by carriages of every kind—post-chaises, jaunting cars, coaches. In fact, such was the demand for vehicles of all sorts, that Dublin alone could not meet the supply, and carriages were obtained from Bray, in the county of Wicklow, and all the other large establishments for miles round the metropolis. In these carriages were the repeal wardens and members of the association. These were again followed by the members of the corporation, the aldermen and town council, in private carriages, headed by the lord mayor. These then were succeeded by the personal friends or political admirers of Mr O'Connell; and amongst them was, in the same carriage with Mr Grattan, the member for Meath, the Honourable Hely Hutchinson, the brother of the Earl of Donoughmore.

Never in Dublin was there such a procession seen, either for the numbers that it included, or that witnessed it, or for the respectability and wealth who either participated in it, or manifested their delight in witnessing it. The great climax to its magnificence

was, however, the moment in which Mr O'Connell, accompanied by his son John, Dr Miley, Mr Duffy, Mr Steele, Mr Ray, Dr Gray, and Mr Barrett, emerged from the prison gates to take part in it. A movement from those who could see from the parapet of the prison into the inner court, intimated to those outside that Mr O'Connell was about to appear. The crowds, which up to that time had been cheering loudly, paused; silence seemed to run with the rapidity of electricity along the line. There was a dead silence. It continued for at least five minutes, and then, when at length O'Connell was conducted from the gaol by Mr Smith O'Brien, M.P., a sudden cheer burst forth, but it was instantly suppressed, as if it were premature. A low, deep, and thrilling murmur seemed to be uttered by the thousands that were witnessing the scene; it was the suppressed exclamation of men who were struggling with their feelings, and endeavouring to master them. At length Mr O'Connell, with Mr John O'Connell, and Dr Miley, were seen ascending the triumphal car, and then came forth a shout so loud, so long, so vehement, and so enthusiastic, that even the man of firmest nerve must for the moment have felt himself shaken by it. Wherever the eye could reach, the space beneath it was occupied by a human being, and each and all were sending forth a peal of acclamation. The shout of those in front of the prison was caught up along the whole line of procession, and for at least five minutes the air seemed to be rent with a thunderburst of joyful cheerings, that came reverberating back upon the utterers, making every heart beat quicker, and every eye glance brighter. The cheers continued; and then Mr O'Connell, who wore on his head a bright green velvet cap, rose and waved it two or three times round his head, when again and again were the acclamations renewed, each time appearing to increase in fervour and in strength. There could not have been less than 500,000 persons gathered together for this national festival.

The carriage in which Mr O'Connell sat on this occasion was of the most magnificent description. It is thus described:—

It would be hard to attempt a description of this strange machine (which originally figured so far back as 1832, at the chairing of Mr O'Connell in that year). It is apparently constituted of a large platform, bearing three stories, arranged like steps of stairs, and profusely decorated with purple velvet, gold fringes, gilt-headed nails, bosses, and paintings. On the top stair were two large arm chairs, covered with purple velvet and gilding, in (or rather standing before) which were placed Mr O'Connell and his son John. The hon. gentleman stood up to his full height, with his head slightly thrown back, and waved his velvet cap and bowed incessantly, whilst at intervals his lips were seen to move, but it is needless to say that whatever he said was utterly inaudible through the storm of cheers and yells which raged around him. On the second stair was seated Dr Miley, and on the lowest range sat Mr D. O'Connell, jun., an Irish harper attired in the full dress of the days "when Malichi wore the collar of gold" uselessly playing on a genuine Irish harp, and two young gentlemen (who we understood were Mr O'Connell's grandsons) dressed in tunics of green velvet with caps of the same material and white feathers.

Dr Gray, his lady, and family, occupied the next carriage. Mr Barrett, Mr Duffy, and Mr Ray next; and Mr Steele sat in the third from the triumphal car. Each of these gentlemen was warmly applauded as he took his seat. The next carriage in the procession contained the solicitors for the defence, bearing the monster indictment. The scene of joy that presented itself at the Penitentiary was repeated upon all parts of the line where Mr O'Connell appeared; but in none did it reach a higher pitch of enthusiasm than at the Four Courts and at Mr O'Connell's own residence, when he returned to it in the evening.

Mr O'CONNELL, on reaching the balcony of his residence in Merriion square, came forward, and proceeded to address the vast multitude, amidst the most deafening peals of acclamation. He said,

This is a great day for Ireland [tremendous cheering]—a day of justice. All that we ever desired was justice, and we have got an instalment of it at any rate. The plans of the wicked and the conspiracy of the oppressor—the foul mismanagement of the jury panel—the base conspiracy against the lives, the liberties, and the constitutional rights of the public—have all, blessed be God, been defeated. Justice has thus far been attained, and Ireland may, if she deserves it, be free [loud cheers]. But do I doubt the people of Ireland deserving it? If I did, I would be the most stupid as well as the most base of mankind. How could I doubt them? Had not we made a mighty experiment of collecting them in tens of thousands, and twenties of thousands, and hundreds of thousands? Had not we even millions meeting in the tranquillity of the open day, with a strength that would bear down the armies of the world [great cheering]—but with a meekness and a mildness, and a gentleness of demeanour, that allowed them to be managed as if they were a mere flock of children [cheers]? Yes, from north to south, from east to west, the congregated myriads met—they assembled—they heard their wrongs described—they knew that there was no exaggeration and no falsehood asserted. They knew that they had been a nation, and they determined that their country shall be a nation again [loud cheers]. One meeting alone remained unasssembled—the meeting of Clontarf [cheers]. Some of the minions of power laid, I fear, a scheme to dye that day in gore—to deluge the soil with the blood of the people; but we disappointed them [cheers]. I issued my counter proclamation, and it was obeyed. The people did not put themselves in danger. But the law has since declared that we were acting illegally. Oh, no, it dare not do that, but it spelled out illegality out of a number of legal meetings ["Hear," and cheers]. Our Clontarf meeting has not taken place as yet; but it will be for the Repeal Association, which has the confidence of the Irish people, to determine whether it may not be necessary, for the sake of public principle, to decide whether that meeting may not be hereafter held. I hope they may arrive at the conclusion that it is not necessary to have that meeting; but, if the cause of liberty requires it, we will all go there, peace-

ably and unarmed, and we shall return with an increased determination that Ireland shall be a nation [cheers]. My own opinion is, that it will not be now necessary to hold the Clontarf meeting, because I think the principle which would call for it has been abundantly vindicated already. Even the trials vindicated it. But if we do not take that step what are we to do? I have a secret for you [cheers and laughter]. We will do everything that can be necessary to procure repeal—we will adopt no detail without being perfectly advised as to its propriety and legality. Why, they said that I was not a lawyer, or that I had grown old, and forgotten all my law; but I am young enough in law and in fact for them yet [cheers]. They said that I, who had often boasted that no man who followed my advice had ever been brought into jeopardy, or found himself within the fangs of the law—and I often did make that boast—but they turned round upon me and said, "Doctor, cure thyself." They alleged that I, who had advised others well, had misadvised myself. They said I was guilty of a conspiracy, but I tell them they lie [loud cheers]. And I will tell you who says they lie—Lord Chief Justice Denman in the House of Peers [great cheering]. If I wanted to indulge my vanity, and to have my legal skill tested, I could not have devised a better plan for having my object effected than that which has taken place throughout the entire of these proceedings.

The honourable and learned gentleman then proceeded to state that he would attend in the Conciliation hall on Monday, when he would announce all his future plans; and, among others, detail his project for having county meetings to petition for the impeachment of the judges, attorney-general, and other parties concerned in the late trial.

SUNDAY.—According to the official notification advertised in the "orange" as well as "green" journals of Friday, "solemn high masses" and *Te Deums* were celebrated and chanted in all the Roman catholic chapels, on this day, to commemorate Mr O'Connell's triumph. Mr O'Connell and all the members of his family, the Lord Mayor and family, several members and officers of the corporation, Mr Ray, and Dr Gray (a protestant and ex-martyr), attended to-day the church of the Conception, Marlborough street, which was crowded to overflowing, while an immense concourse of people were assembled outside, and kept in order by a strong force of police, both horse and foot.

The sermon was preached by Dr Miley. Having explained at very great length the doctrine of the Roman catholic church, which permits its followers to seek the intervention of the Virgin Mary, and having adverted to Mr O'Connell's appeal to her from Tara of the Hills (when addressing the monster meeting, which took place there on the 15th of August last year) for her prayers and her protection, proceeded to comment upon the triumph of the law, in the first place, over Mr O'Connell, and of justice over law in the end; coupling with this last event what he considered a remarkable coincidence in connexion with the celebration of this day's festival in the church—"the nativity of the blessed Virgin"—viz., the fact that Mr O'Connell and those members of his family and others who were in communion with the catholic church had, when all hope from human aid had appeared to have been vain—when all human succour might well have been despaired of, in compliance with the suggestion of a pious clergyman, prayed to Heaven for the intercession of that justice which it seemed that man was to deny them. The devotion of the "Novena," in honour of the "nativity" was begun, and the last day on which it terminated was completed when Mr O'Connell and the other prisoners were freed, but not till then. It was for the purpose of saying the last prayers of thanksgiving—the last prayers appointed by the church—that Mr O'Connell had returned to the prison, to pass from thence to the car of triumph. The preacher, who dwelt at much length upon this circumstance, observed that he did not call it a miracle, but it was an incident so far beyond human calculation that one of the solicitors engaged in the cause had said to him, that, though he had heard the judgment reversed, had seen men congratulate themselves on the event, and was himself the bearer of the official document which liberated Mr O'Connell, still he could not believe it to be true. The Dr also remarked, that the idea of having those peculiar prayers for the intercession of the Virgin was suggested to the mind of the priest who conducted the devotion of the Novena. He then adverted to other events, which, he said, were notorious in history, to show the coincidence between prayers to the blessed Virgin and the fulfilment of them, contrary to all human probability, and concluded in the following words:—"Pray for him, O holy mother of God, that he may be made worthy of the promises of Christ."

This prayer seemed to produce a general and marked sensation throughout the church, all who were enabled to do so having immediately knelt down. At the close of the ceremony a *Te Deum* was chanted by the choir and the clergyman officiating, immediately after which Mr O'Connell and family returned to their residences, followed by a large portion of the crowd, who cheered them enthusiastically as they drove through the principal streets.

THE PROVINCES.

The different mails and coaches, of course, carried the news to all parts of the country. It spread like wildfire among the people; and, although at first doubted, it was received with the most lively demonstrations of joy, such, perhaps, as no people but the Irish or the French would exhibit. In every direction manifestations of triumph were made by the people, in the country by the peasants, and in the towns by the shopkeepers, and such of the respectable classes as are supporters of O'Connell. In the south and south-west more particularly these demonstrations were made, and the county of Cork, of which Mr O'Connell is the representative, was not behind the rest. It affords a sample of the effect of the news; generally where the supporters of Mr O'Connell are numerous.

The news arrived in Cork about noon. It soon spread through the city, and drew vast crowds to the front of the Exchange-room and the newspaper-offices. Some of the streets were densely crammed with people that it was not possible to pass along. The whole place was alive with excitement, and, before the new had been

half an hour in town, processions of people were formed, parading the streets with green boughs and music. Many houses were decorated with boughs, and, as if by magic, all the poorer classes of the population contrived to supply themselves with boughs, even to the little children. The utmost good humour prevailed.

Along the mail-coach road to Dublin there were similar demonstrations of joy. At night the whole country was illuminated. The lighting of bonfires on the hills is a customary mode of expressing satisfaction or conveying intelligence with the Irish people. On this occasion they indulged themselves to the utmost. The whole horizon seemed on fire whichever way you looked. These fires were kept up during the greater part of the night. The towns, and even the larger villages, were illuminated. Fermoy was one blaze of light, as was indeed every town or considerable village in the southern districts. At Thurles there was an enormous collection of people, and a "monster" bonfire; at Cashel the same; and so on throughout the principal routes of the metropolis. Every post brings in accounts from the provinces of a like character. "The popular exultation in the country," says the correspondent of the *Chronicle*, "surpasses, if that were possible, what has been witnessed in the metropolis. The joy of the people is quite unbounded, but all is peace. There is not, from any part of the country, the allegation of a single breach of order or of offence against the opponents of the triumph of Repealers."

GREAT PUBLIC BANQUET.—A public dinner, on a splendid scale, is to be given to Mr O'Connell and his fellow-martyrs, on a convenient day within the present month, to commemorate the memorable event of the reversal of the judgment and their release from prison. Arrangements are to be made to enable all parts of the country to participate in this national festival.

THE HARVEST IN IRELAND.—Some of our correspondents allege that there is a finer harvest in process of being gathered this year in Ireland than at any former season within "the memory of man," or of "the oldest inhabitant." The potato crop, respecting which so many fears were expressed some time since, has been remarkably improved, especially in quality, by the weather of the last four weeks. The wheat crop is exceedingly fine, and the oats are said to be very abundant. In the commencement of the season there was every reason to expect a failure of the flax crop; but we are informed that, although the bulk may be in some instances less than in former seasons, yet the quality will compensate for this deficiency.—*Banner of Ulster*.

SCOTLAND.

ILLUMINATION IN GLASGOW FOR THE LIBERATOR.—Yesterday (Friday) evening, about nine o'clock, a number of repealers in Bridgegate street and neighbourhood commenced lighting up their windows, in honour of Mr O'Connell and the other traversers, on the occasion of the reversal of their illegal sentence by the House of Lords, and by ten o'clock the illumination in that part of the city became general. In Cowcaddens, also, the news of the decision had the same inspiring effect, and hearty rejoicings in and out of doors were everywhere manifested. A great part of St Enoch's Wynd, particularly the properties of Peter McCabe, Esq., were brilliantly illuminated; there being in one land no fewer than 300 candles burning. There was neither riot nor disturbance of any kind in the quarters where the illumination went on—in fact all parties seemed to look upon the matter with the best of feeling. We observe, by placards extensively posted throughout the town, that a great public meeting is to be held in the City hall on Monday first, on the occasion of the reversal of the sentence of Mr O'Connell, and his liberation from prison along with the other traversers. Amongst the names of the gentlemen who are to address the meeting, we are happy to notice that of our eloquent and warm-hearted friend, Mr Henry Vincent.—*Glasgow Saturday Post*.

RETIREMENT OF LORD STANLEY.—Lord Stanley's acceptance of the Chiltern Hundreds is thus accounted for by the *Standard*:—"His withdrawal from the scene of his triumphs, and from the walls which have long echoed with his brilliant eloquence, and the enthusiastic cheers of his admiring and astonished hearers, is only preparatory to his removal to the House of Peers. Lord Stanley retains the seals of the colonial office, and his seat in the cabinet; and, however severely his loss may be felt in the House of Commons, his entrance into the House of Peers must be hailed with universal satisfaction. Indeed, the want of speakers on the government benches in the Upper House has been strongly manifested since the death of the lamented Lord Fitzgerald, the absence of Lord Ellenborough, and the frequent indisposition of the Earl of Ripon." Lord Stanley has issued an address to his late constituents of North Lancashire; the most remarkable point in which is his expression of a hope, that in the selection of a successor, they will mark their approval of the government to which he belongs. The noble lord is, according to the *Times*, to be called to the peerage under the title of Baron Stanley, after the same fashion as his father, the present Earl of Derby. The vacant seat will probably be contested by the Anti-corn-law League. Were the election to take place after the ensuing registration, the free traders express their belief that they would successfully contest it. It is understood that Talbot Clifton, Esq., will be the tory candidate. The liberal candidate is not yet named. The tory candidate is thought to have been chosen to fill the vacant seat only *pro tem.*, as warming pan to Lord Stanley's son, not yet of age. The tory party are already bestirring themselves and forming committees.

Miscellaneous.

STATE AND PROSPECTS OF TRADE.—We have received several monthly circulars from various mercantile houses engaged in the cotton, woolen, &c., trade, all of which notice the check which the demand for our soft manufactured fabrics has met with in foreign markets during the last month. The exports have been, therefore, on a very reduced scale lately, and were it not for the active home trade, which the certainty of a good and early harvest has produced, the month of August would, says the circular of Messrs Gibson, Ord, and Co., "be one of the dulllest experienced during the present year." Very large shipments having been made to India and China, and the commercial accounts by the last overland mail not having been favourable, the market for these countries has been very inactive; and, indeed, generally, the foreign demand, particularly that for the last three weeks, seems to be under the average. The prospects of trade are, nevertheless, encouraging. The contingency of a French war appears now to be so remote, that we may fairly anticipate a favourable reaction in those branches of commerce which have been for some weeks past depressed by the prospect. In the yarn trade the past month has been one of great activity, that branch of industry being at present in a most hopeful and healthy state. To the abundant harvest this favourable state of things is no doubt in a great measure to be attributed. Low prices of food, and the activity and prosperity of trade, both producing and conveying, go naturally hand in hand.—*Chronicle*.

CAPTAIN WARNER'S INVENTION.—Mr Jobbard, of Brussels, who has devoted much attention to pyrotechnic works, has communicated to the French government what he states to be the composition of Captain Warner's destructive power. It consists, he says, of a congreve rocket made in this way:—

The head of it is composed of a hollow iron cone, of great strength, containing a kilogramme of fulminate of mercury, on which is placed the usual charge of the rocket, of which the body is twice as long as those in general use. He discharges his projectile from a directing tube from the port-hole of the vessel, and on a level with the water, so that his projectile, skimming along the waves, which supports a part of its weight, fixes itself in the side of the enemy's vessel, where it bursts when the fire reaches the fulminating powder, and making an immense opening in it sinks it at once. The proper range of this rocket is only three or four miles, but Captain Warner imagines he can send it five or six by discharging it from a cannon. He does not say that he will attain his object in the first attempt, but he will try on until he succeeds.

TROOPS FOR IRELAND.—An express from London arrived at Chatham barracks on Saturday evening, bearing orders from the horse guards to Colonel Wilshire, the commandant of the garrison, to immediately despatch two regiments to Ireland. Every means were taken to carry the order into execution without delay; and the greatest activity prevailed. At 12 o'clock on Saturday night all was in readiness, and two steamers having previously reached Chatham, the troops embarked.—*Globe*.

SUPPLY OF COAL IN GREAT BRITAIN.—Although the present known coal fields of Great Britain contain, perhaps, sufficient coal to supply her wants for 2,000 or 3,000 years to come, it is a very erroneous basis of calculation to assume that the whole is at our disposal. Under the present system, in the finest description of coal of the northern field, there is even, in its extraction, a loss of 36½ per cent. The views of the theoretical geologists, without allowing for waste, would lead to the most incorrect practical conclusions; while Conybeare, Lardner, and others, would make our coal resources sufficient for 1,500 or 2,000 years, Professor Sedgwick and Dr Buckland, allowing for loss in working, calculated from practical experience, are convinced that 400 years will leave little more than the name of our best seams. Of 45 feet of coal in a section of all the coal strata, in one of the best pits of the Tyne, not 30 feet are workable. In the north, coal cannot be extracted at a profit, if less than two feet eight inches. Most of the thin seams are worked for local consumption, and cannot bear the expense of transit and competition for manufacturing and commercial purposes. Already the Tyne portion of the northern coal fields begins to feel the difficulties of exhaustion in the finer description of coal; and that of the Wear and Tees (less worked than it) has the advantage, in commercial competition, of from 9 to 10 per cent. in price.—*Mining Journal*.

ARMED SUPPRESSION OF THE SLAVE TRADE.—The Liverpool Peace society has presented a petition to parliament on this subject, going into it at much length. The prayer of the petition is thus expressed:—

"Your petitioners, therefore, being convinced that no external force can be effected to crush this trade so long as it continues a profitable one; and feeling, also, that however good the object to be accomplished, they have no authority to seek its accomplishment through the destruction of human life, do most respectfully and most urgently entreat your honourable House to assist in putting an end, without delay, to the unchristian and life-destroying system of armed interference by this country for the suppression of the slave trade."

At Hougham, says the *Stamford Mercury*, a farmer's wife ties up her cream in a linen cloth—buries it for twenty-four hours in a damp corner of her garden—empties it into a bowl—stirs it with a spoon—and the butter and buttermilk separate. Her butter is said to be sweeter than that which is made by churning.

We are positively assured that his Majesty Louis Philippe will reach England on the 9th of next month, should no unforeseen obstacle occur.—*Times*.

EVERYBODY'S COLUMN.

A general recruiting is ordered in Russia. The western provinces are to furnish five men for every thousand of the population. [More food for the Circassian cannon we suppose.]

The will of the late T. Travers, Esq., has been proved in the Prerogative court. The property is sworn under £70,000.

An inhabitant of the town of St Denis committed suicide lately by filling an egg-shell with gunpowder, placing it in his mouth, and then exploding it with the lighted end of a cigar.

An American minister, Mr C. T. Torrey, is in the felon's gaol at Baltimore, awaiting his trial on a charge of having assisted two slaves to escape, one from Maryland, and the other from Virginia.

Professor Sewell, of the veterinary college, says that the prevalent disease amongst cattle may, in almost all cases, be checked by immediate bleeding.

A person signing himself "Peccavi," has sent £100 to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, to be placed to the credit of the nation.

Sixty-eight thousand dollars have been paid by the state of Kentucky, up to the present time, as compensation to the owners, for slaves executed as criminals.

A swindler "made" a pair of shoes, last week, in Kendal, by ordering a pair, first from one and then from another, and although neither would let him have the pair, they did not hesitate to let him have a single one each.

The secretary of state has appropriated Millbank penitentiary as a depot for the reception of all convicts under sentence of transportation in Great Britain, in lieu of their being sent as heretofore to the hulks.

A Prussian judge is at present in this country on a visit. He has accompanied the judges on the northern circuit to the principal towns which they have visited.

"Hip, hip, hurra!" originated in the crusades, it being a corruption of H. E. P., the initials of *Hierosolyma est perdita* (Jerusalem is lost), the motto on the banner of Peter the hermit, whose followers hunted the Jews down with the cry of "Hip, hip, hurra!"

On Sunday evening a large flock of wild geese passed over Chesterfield, on their way, it is supposed, to the fens of Lincolnshire. Such a circumstance at this early period of the season was hardly ever known; and it is considered to forebode an early and severe winter.—*Nottingham Review*.

THE YOUNG IDEA.—A teacher, endeavouring to make a pupil understand the nature and application of a passive verb, said—"A passive verb is expressive of the nature of receiving an action, as, Peter is beaten. Now, what did Peter do?" The boy, pausing a moment, with the gravest countenance imaginable, replied, "Well, I don't know, without he hollered."

The losses sustained by the Emperor of Morocco since the commencement of hostilities with France are estimated at 30,000,000 of francs, and this loss is every day increased by the cessation of commerce.

USEFUL AND ORNAMENTAL.—The French despatches of the battle of Isly mention the capture of the Emperor's son's parasol. Marshal Bugeaud has claimed this for his own use, as he thinks it will keep the laurels he has gathered in Algeria from withering.—*Punch*.

A PETRIFIED FOREST.—Mr Kennedy, in his late work on Texas, says, one of the most remarkable natural curiosities in Texas is a petrified forest, near the head of Pasigono river. It consists of several hundred trees, in an erect position, turned to stone. Trees now growing are partially petrified.

SCOTCH ANECDOTE.—An anxious mother was taking leave of her son, on his departure for England, and giving him all good advice. "My dear Sauny, my ainly son, gang south and get all the siller from the Southerners, take everything you can; but the English are a brow boxing people, and take care of them, Sauny. My dear son Sauny, never fight a bald man, for you cannot catch hold of him by the hair of his head."

CONSIDERATE GAOLER.—Horace Walpole tells the annexed anecdote of a humane gaoler in Oxfordshire, who made the following application to one of his condemned prisoners:—"My good friend, I have a little favour to ask of you, which, from your obliging disposition, I doubt not you will readily grant. You are ordered for execution on Friday week. I have a particular engagement on that day; if it makes no difference to you, would you say next Friday instead?"

MATRIMONY.—"A beneficed clergyman, of the highest respectability and good family, but of limited income," advertises, in the *Leeds Intelligencer*, of Saturday last, for a wife. The reverend gentleman, who does not state his age, wishes to have "a young lady who can command two or three hundred a year." The answers to this advertisement must state the "age and circumstances" of the candidates for selection.

A correspondent of the *Worcester Journal* says that he knows a person who inserted in "the leading journal of Europe" an advertisement for which he paid 9s. At the foot thereof was appended—"Parties wishing an answer to their application will please to enclose a postage stamp." Within a week he received no less than 219 letters with postage stamps enclosed, which not only paid for advertising, but gave a bonus of 9s. 3d. in favour. It is said that hundreds of persons resort to this novel mode of "raising the wind."

There is no surer way of ascertaining the state from which an American comes than by his thinkings and guessings. The new Englander guesses, the Virginians and Pennsylvanians think, the Kentuckian calculates, the man of Alabama reasons.

Religious Intelligence.

BRIGHTON.—WEST STREET CHAPEL.—On Tuesday, August 20th, Mr R. Brewer, formerly of Colchester, Gloucestershire, was ordained to the pastoral office over the church meeting in the above place, which had been formed the previous evening by Dr Steane. The services commenced with an early prayer meeting at six o'clock a.m., and at eleven o'clock Mr Russell, of Greenwich, commenced with reading the scriptures and prayer. Mr Aldis delivered the introductory discourse from Matt. xxiii. 8. Mr Davis, of Lewes, asked the usual questions, which were responded to by the newly elected pastor, and one of the deacons. Dr Steane offered prayer for a blessing upon the union thus formed. Dr Murch delivered the charge to the minister; and Mr Soule, of Battersea, concluded in prayer. Dinner and tea were provided in the spacious room of the town hall, where a large number of friends were provided for by the spontaneous benevolence of those attending upon Mr Brewer's ministry, and some others interested in the new cause. In the evening, after Mr Aldis had read and prayed, Dr Cox preached to the church from Phil. i. 27. And thus closed one of the most harmonious days Brighton has ever witnessed. The sum of £91 was collected towards the floating debt.

OPENING OF A NEW CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL AT COLCHESTER.—This place of worship was opened for divine service on Thursday se'night, when two eloquent and appropriate discourses were delivered by Dr Campbell of London, and Dr Morison of Brompton. The day being fine, a large number of ministers and friends from surrounding congregations attended, and completely filled the place. The devotional exercises were conducted by Messrs Johnston of Nayland, Trew of Dedham, Pechey of Langham, Johnson of Halstead, Kay of Coggeshall, Pinchback of Manningtree, Elrick of Sudbury, and Rust and Langford of Colchester. In the middle of the day upwards of 120 ladies and gentlemen dined together at the Room of the Mechanics' Institute, after which appropriate addresses were delivered by Drs Campbell and Morison, Mr Anderson of Bures, Mr Fraser, the pastor of the church, and J. Chaplin, Esq., of Colchester, and other friends. The collections amounted to nearly £63. The whole proceedings were marked by the utmost cordiality and Christian feeling. It was particularly gratifying to see so many neighbouring pastors present (to the number in all of seventeen) with many of their members to testify their sympathy with the infant church in this important movement. The chapel is a very neat, plain building—54 feet by 44, situated in a new street, and capable of seating between five and six hundred persons—having a gallery at one end for Sunday-school and free seats, and vestries behind. Provision is made for side galleries, when necessary, which would afford accommodation for upwards of 700 altogether. It has been erected under the superintendence of Mr W. F. Paulton of Reading, and the design of the building does credit to his taste and judgment. It will cost altogether, including the ground (100 feet frontage by 70) and fences, about £1300. There is room left for the erection of school-rooms, which it is hoped the congregation may be enabled to erect by and by. This place has been built for the use of a church lately formed, and now under the pastoral care of Mr Fraser, formerly of Albany street chapel, Edinburgh, who has been preaching with great acceptance to the people since the beginning of last October. The church at present consists of about forty members, and although most of them are poor, they have, besides paying current expenses, raised already among themselves upwards of 400 guineas towards the building fund. And it is gratifying to state that most of those friends who have already contributed voluntarily pledged themselves to give the same amounts as those already paid within one year and a half from the present time. This affords another proof of the efficiency of the voluntary principle.

GRANTHAM, LINCOLNSHIRE.—Mr J. Barfitt, of Salisbury, has accepted the unanimous invitation of the independent church and congregation, Grantham, Lincolnshire, and purposes, (D. V.), entering upon his stated labours the first Sabbath in October. Mr Barfitt enters upon this important sphere of labour under circumstances highly encouraging.

BIRTHS.

Sept. 3, at Mount House, Braintree, Mrs E. G. CRAIG, of a son.
Sept. 4, the wife of Mr JOHN STOUTON, independent minister, Kensington, of a daughter.
Sept. 5, at Olney lodge, Battersea, the lady of JOSEPH TRITTON, Esq., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Aug. 26, at the independent chapel, Wells, by Mr H. Crossman, SAMUEL LAMBERT to ELIZABETH MASTERS.
Aug. 28, at Cannon street chapel, by Mr J. Dean, Mr WILLIAM MARRY, of this town, to ELIZABETH, eldest daughter of William WATTS, Esq., of Burnage.
Aug. 31, at Highbury chapel, Cheltenham, JOHN, eldest son of Mr Charles MALVERN, brush manufacturer, High street, to FANNY ADAMS, youngest daughter of the late Mr Francis RAWLINGS, surveyor, of Cheltenham.
Sept. 1, by Mr John Chapman Davis, VALENTINE BOYCE, to ELIZABETH MEDLAM.
Sept. 3, at St Ives, Mrs ELIZABETH CORWAY WILLIS, relict of Mr Henry Willis, of Sir Wm Elford's bank, Plymouth, to JOHN CHILLOW, Esq., merchant, mayor of St Ives. A tea was given by the mayors, at the Guildhall, to eighty children of the national school.
Sept. 3, at Harvey lane chapel, Leicester, by the pastor, Mr J. P. Murrell, Mr I. NEWTON, to SARAH, fourth daughter of Mr James CLARK.
Sept. 3, at the independent chapel, Needham Market, JOSEPH, youngest son of T. S. HARWOOD, Esq., of Battisford hall, to CHARLOTTE, daughter of N. H. SMITH, Esq., of Deerbolts, Earl Statham.
Sept. 3, at the independent chapel, Beccles, Mr DURRANT, sen., watchmaker, to Miss SMITH, of the same place.
Sept. 4, at Poleshill independent chapel, by Dr Styles, Mr WILLIAM ARNOLD, widower, to Miss ANN RANDLE, spinster, both of the parish of Bedworth, Warwickshire.
Sept. 4, at the baptist chapel, Pershore, Worcestershire, by the

pastor, Mr P. Overbury, Mr THOMAS STANLEY, of Gloucester, to Miss HANNAH HEMMING, of Pershore.

Sept. 4, at the Abbey chapel, Bovey, by the pastor, Mr J. Reynolds, Mr SAMUEL SAUNDERS, of Bath, second son of Mr A. E. Saunders, of Market Lavington, to AMELIA GOULDING, third daughter of the late Mr T. GAINES, of Devizes.

Sept. 5, at the Ebenezer chapel, Wycombe, by the pastor, Mr J. Hayden, Mr THOMAS KIDGELL, to JANE, eldest daughter of the late Mr Francis STEVENS.

Sept. 6, at the independent chapel, Topsham, Devon, by Dr A. T. Dobbin, Mr JOHN LISCOR, to Miss MARY HANNAH HENSON, both of Dulverton, Somerset.

Sept. 10, at Claremont chapel, Pentonville, by Mr Brown, minister of Islington Green chapel, Mr GEORGE CARTER, late of Paulton, Somerset, to ELIZA, only daughter of John FLATHER, Esq., of Hastings street, New road.

DEATHS.

Aug. 30, in her 60th year, after a long affliction, borne with much patience and resignation to the Divine will, her hope resting alone on Christ, SARAH, the beloved wife of Mr Robert RANVARD, Clifton, near Sheffield, Beds. Her end was peace.

Sept. 2, ALBAN, son of Mr W. URTON, dissenting minister, of St Albans, aged six months.

Sept. 2, after a long and painful illness, in her 19th year, SARAH, the eldest daughter of Mr Thomas JEFFS, Kneeworth street, Royston, Cambridgeshire.

Sept. 3, after a protracted illness, aged 39 years, CHARLOTTE, the beloved and affectionate wife of John BUTTER, Esq., of Morden, near Mitcham, Surrey.

Sept. 3, at Braintree, Mr JAMES WHARRIE SHAVE, ironmonger, of that town, aged 51 years. His death will be deeply felt by his widow and family, as also by a large circle of friends.

Sept. 4, ANNE MARIA, infant twin of Mr John WILLIAMS, baptist minister, Hunslet.

Sept. 8, early in the morning, deeply lamented by her family and a large circle of friends, Miss HEPZIBAH KNIGHT, third daughter of Mr John Knight, of Surrey lodge, Brixton hill.

Lately, at Little Glenn, Leicestershire, aged 71, Mr THOMAS HOLMES, deacon of the baptist church, Blaby. He was highly esteemed by an extensive circle of friends, and had enjoyed the benefits of religion for more than fifty years.

SCHOOLS IN THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.—The *Missionary Herald* for June contains a brief report of a speech made by Commodore Jones, of the United States navy, to a great meeting of the natives of the Sandwich islands. He complimented them on the system of education among them, and stated the following remarkable fact, highly creditable both to them and the American missionaries, under whose auspices so much good has been accomplished:—"At Monterey de California there are several English and Americans intermarried with descendants of the old Spaniards, and they have children growing up around them. On my inquiring as to their schools and means of education, judge of my surprise when the answer was, 'Oh, we have to send them to the Sandwich Islands to be educated; there they have good schools, here we have none.'"

HUMAN SACRIFICES IN INDIA.—A correspondent at Berhampore, whose letter is dated April 19th, supplies a few facts of a most cheering nature relative to the Khoonds. It is very gratifying to learn that the labours of Captain Macpherson have been crowned with complete success. During the present year he has obtained the surrender of upwards of a hundred and forty victims in the Ganjam Khoond region, exclusively in the Goomsoor Muliahs. The proper season for these inhuman exhibitions having passed, without the slightest tendency to a single sacrifice, it is concluded that the abominable practice has been absolutely relinquished within the above limits. Too much praise cannot be bestowed upon the political agent, through whose incessant and able exertions this triumph of mercy has been effected.—*Madras Athenaeum*, April 30th.

THE POPERY OF IRVINGISM.—We understand that the chapel in Duncan street, Islington, belonging to the disciples of the late Rev. Edward Irving, who have for some time denominated themselves "catholic," within the last few days has been ornamented with a cross, placed immediately under the portico. Whether this is in consequence of a "new light," or whether it is by way of enlarging the Roman catholic chapels at the back of their building, we are not informed; but it would appear that it has taken a long time to discover the necessity for this addition to the building.—*Patriot*.

PROOF OF CHINESE CIVILISATION.—No higher proof, perhaps, may be adduced of the high state of civilisation to which the Chinese have arrived, than that the military profession, so far from being considered the most honourable, is, with the exception of their priesthood, considered the lowest: the first station in society being given to men of letters, the second to merchants, and the last to the paid military defenders of their country.

Trade and Commerce.

LONDON GAZETTE.

Friday, September 6.

The following buildings are certified as places duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to the act of 6 and 7 William IV., cap. 85:—

Hope chapel, Rochdale.
Independent chapel, Needham market, Suffolk.

BANKRUPTS.

BAILEY, THOMAS, and BAILEY, JOHN, King's-cliffe, Northamptonshire, toy dealers, Sept. 13, Oct. 18: solicitor, Mr Alfred Goddard, King street, Cheapside, London.

CLARKE, HENRY, Sheffield, builder, Sept. 18, Oct. 4: solicitors, Mr Ryalls, Sheffield, and Mr Blackburn, Leeds.

DOCKERY, ROBERT THORNTON, Dartford, Kent, and of Farringdon market, City, market gardener, Sept. 14, Oct. 18: solicitor, Mr Thomas John Jerwood, 1, Walbrook buildings, City.

KITCHEN, JOHN, Stockport, corn dealer, Sept. 18, Oct. 9: solicitors, Messrs Johnson and Co., King's Bench walk, Temple, London, and Mr George M. Ferns, Stockport.

PETTINGREW, ROBERT, jun., Woolwich, tailor, Sept. 12, Oct. 18: solicitors, Messrs Hine and Robinson, Charter house square.

QUY, JOHN, White Rothing, Essex, dealer in cattle, Sept. 12, Oct. 18: solicitor, Mr Henry Ashley, 9, Shoreditch, London.

RONALD, LOUIS ADOLPH, Cheltenham, milliner, Sept. 22, Oct. 21: solicitor, Mr Pike, Old Burlington street, London.

ROLLINGS, THOMAS, 2, Ingram court, Fenchurch street, City, wine merchant, Sept. 19, Oct. 18: solicitor, Mr Alfred Goddard, King street, Cheapside.

SOTHERS, LAWRENCE, and PERRETT, WILLIAM, Gravesend, Kent, grocers, Sept. 13, Oct. 17: solicitors, Messrs Thompson and Co., Salters' hall, St Swin's lane.

THRELL, CHARLES ROSS, late of Carey street, Chancery lane, vicar, Sept. 14, Oct. 22: solicitor, Mr James Robinson, 29, Lionmonger lane.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

STEVENS, THOMAS, Edinburgh, general agent, Sept. 10, 94.

DIVIDENDS.

Oct. 1, J. Pratt, Berners street, Oxford street, plumber—Sept. 28, W. Timmis, Longton, Staffordshire, draper—Sept. 27, T. Higginson, Liverpool, pawnbroker—Oct. 9, S. Spinkman, Preston, Lancashire, ship builder—Oct. 3, E. Fossard, Saddleworth, Yorkshire, dyer—Oct. 3, T. F. Clark, Liverpool, draper—Oct. 3, S. Meredith, Liverpool, linen draper—Oct. 2, J. J. and H. Buckley, Manchester and Todmorden, cotton and worsted manufacturers.

Tuesday, September 10th.

The following buildings are certified as places duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to the act of 6 and 7 William IV., cap. 85:—

St Mary's church, Brewood, Staffordshire.
Mile-end New Town chapel, Church street, Mile-end.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

SIXON, JOHN, Brighton, dealer in toys.

BANKRUPTS.

BRADSHAW, GEORGE, Welchpool, Montgomeryshire, linen draper, Sept. 17, Oct. 9: solicitors, Mr Walker, Furnival's inn, London; and Mr Bradley, Liverpool.

HOOK, JOSEPH, Nine Elms and Wandsworth road, contractor, Sept. 23, Oct. 23: solicitor, Mr Sadgrove, 52, Mark lane.

SHAWICK, THOMAS, Leeds, grocer, September 27, October 28: solicitors, Mr Duncanson, Featherstone buildings, London; Mr Unwin, Sheffield; Mr Blackburn, Leeds.

WARRILLOW, ALFRED JOHN, 2, Bekford street, Clerkenwell, fancy stationer, September 19, October 22: solicitor, Mr James William Percival Scott, 2, Southampton buildings, Chancery lane.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

MILLER, JAMES, late of Uphall, mining engineer, Sept. 17, Oct. 3.

SHIELDS, JOHN, Edinburgh, corn dealer, Sept. 14, Oct. 7.

DIVIDENDS.

John Webster, of Sheffield, newspaper proprietor, first and final div. of 1s. in the pound, payable on and after October 7.

BRITISH FUNDS.

The business transacted in 3 per cent. consols since our last has been pretty extensive, and prices are very firm. Money is very abundant, and easy to obtain.

	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per cent. Consols	99½	99	99½	99½	99½	99½
Ditto for Account...	99	99½	99½	99½	99½	99½
3 per cent. Reduced	—	—	—	—	—	—
3½ per cent. Reduced	—	—	—	—	—	—
New 3½ per cent.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Long Annuities	12½	12½	12½	12½	12½	12½
Bank Stock	—	—	—	—	—	—
India Stock	280	281	—	—	—	—
Exchequer Bills	74pm	74pm	74pm	75pm	75pm	74pm
India Bonds	93	—	95pm	—	—	—

FOREIGN FUNDS.

Austrian	—	Mexican	36
Belgian	103	Peruvian	—
Brazilian	84½	Portuguese 5 per cent.	81
Buenos Ayres	35	Ditto 3 per cent.	44
Columbian	131	Russian	119
Danish	88	Spanish Active	85
Dutch 2½ per cent.	62	Ditto Passive	64
Ditto 5 per cent.	100½	Ditto Deferred	13

RAILWAY SHARES.

Birmingham and Derby	79	London & Birm. 4 shares	26
Birmingham & Gloucester	111	London and Brighton	48
Blackwall	71	London & Croydon Trunk	18
Bristol and Exeter	81	London and Greenwich	9
Cheltenham & Gt. Western	—	Ditto New	23
Eastern Counties	111	Manchester and Leeds	127
Edinburgh and Glasgow	66	Midland Counties	106
Grand Junction	219½	Ditto Quarter Shares	—
Great North of England	112	North Midland	—
Great Western	145	Ditto New	—
Ditto Half	87	South Eastern and Dover	38
Ditto Fifths	26	South Western	86
London and Birmingham	223	Ditto New	11

MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, Sept. 9.

There were a few cargoes of foreign wheat, barley, oats, beans, and peas fresh in during last week, and a fair show to-day of samples of wheat from the near counties, chiefly of the new crop; there were many soft and some sprouted parcels; the best runs were selected out at about last week's prices, but some decline was submitted to on all secondary and inferior descriptions. For foreign there was a limited consumptive demand, on quite as good terms as last week.

There was a fair sprinkling of new barley, which found buyers.

There was a little better demand for oats; prices were fully supported, and in some instances a small advance was obtained. Beans of all sorts supported prices. A few runs of new appeared, quality and condition were good.

More new grey peas offering than hitherto, which were taken off up to 34s. for Maples. White boilers maintained prices.

Wheat, Red New	40 to 46	Malt, Ordinary	46 to 56
Fine	46 to 50	Pale	60 to 64
White	42 to 50	Rye	28 to 34
Fine	58 to 54	Peas, Hog	28 to 31
Flour, per sack	33 to 48	Maple	30 to 34
Barley	25 to 28	Boilers	33 to 35
Malt	30 to 34	Beans, Ticks	39 to 33

Beans, Pigeon	32 to 36	Wheat	20s. 0d.
Harrow	31 to 33	Barley	4 0
Oats, Feed	18 to 20	Oats	6 0
Fine	21 to 23	Rye	7 6
Poland	21 to 22	Beans	7 6
Potato	20 to 25	Peas	8 6

WEEKLY AVERAGE FOR SEP. 6.		AGGREGATE AVERAGE OF THE SIX WEEKS.	
Wheat	50s. 11d.	Wheat	50s. 6d.
Barley	34 11	Barley	34 3
Oats	20 7	Oats	20 4
Rye	34 2	Rye	35 8
Beans	37 0	Beans	35 10
Peas	33 10	Peas	34 10

SHEDS.

Canaryseed, though in good supply, was fully as dear as on Monday last, and mustardseed rose 1s. per bushel in value. In prices of other sorts of seeds no change occurred, but winter tares were 6d. to 1s. per bushel lower.

Linseed	per qr.	Clover	per cwt.
English, sowing	54s. to 60s.	English, red	—s. to —
Baltic, ditto	—	Ditto, white	—
Ditto, crushing	40 to 49	Flemish, pale	—
Medic. & Odessa	41 to 43	Ditto, fine	—
Hempseed, small	35 to 38	New Hamb., red	—
Large	—	Ditto, fine	—
Canary, new	—	Old Hamb., red	—
Extra	60 to 62	Ditto, fine	—
Caraway, old	44 to 46	French, red	—
New	44 to 52	Ditto, white	—
Ryegrass, English	—	Coriander	15 to 18
Scotch	—	Old	—
Mustard	per bushel	Rapeseed	per last
Brown, new	10 to 14	English, new	23s. to 24s.
White	8 to 13	Linseed cakes	—
Trefoil	—	English	10s. 10s. to 11s.
Old	—	Foreign	6s. 10s. to 7s.
Tares, new	6 to 7	Rapeseed cakes	— to —

PROVISIONS, LONDON, Sept. 9.

There was a very slow demand for Irish butter, and only a limited extent of business transacted on board or landed, at little or no variation in prices. Friesland of fine quality cleared off at 83s to 84s. per cwt. Bacon was more saleable, and a good business in Waterford and Limerick sided at 44s. to 51s. per cwt, according to quality, condition, and size. Bale and tierce middles were held more firmly, and for more money. Hams dull. Lard, bladdered in steady sale; kegs in more request.

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday, Sept. 9.

There has been a firm market for hops, but not a great deal of business is doing. The quotations remain about the same. Picking commences very generally to-day. Two pockets arrived in the Borough last week from middle Kent, and the price named was 10s. 8s. per cwt. At the Worcester market, on Saturday last, there were four new pockets, for which 5s. 12s. was asked and obtained. The Worcester duty is estimated at 18,000l., and the general duty at 130,000l. to 135,000l.

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, Sept. 9.

The beef trade was tolerably steady, at prices quite equal to those obtained last week, and at which the whole of the supply was disposed of. The imports of live stock from abroad in the past week have consisted of about 70 oxen and cows for the United Kingdom. To-day there were 10 offering from Rotterdam, the general quality of which exhibited a decided improvement over previous importations. The number of sheep were tolerably extensive, while the inquiry for them was rather better than last week, and prices were freely supported. The sale for lambs was very inactive, yet we can notice no alteration in prices. The number of calves was moderately good. Prime descriptions of veal were a steady inquiry, at full currencies. In other kinds very little was doing. Pigs were in fair average supply, and heavy inquiry, at previous rates.

Price per stone of 8lbs. (sinking the offal).
Beef 2s. 6d. to 3s. 10d. | Veal 3s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.
Mutton 2s. 8d. to 3s. 4d. | Pork 3s. 0d. to 3s. 10d.
Lamb 3s. 4d. to 4s. 8d.

HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.

Beasts.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.
Friday 502	8,110	293	340
Monday 3,217	33,070	157	370

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL MARKETS, Monday, Sept. 9.

Per 8lbs. by the carcass.
Inferior Beef 2s. 4d. to 2s. 6d. | Inf. Mutton 2s. 6d. to 2s. 10d.
Middle do 2s. 8d. to 2s. 10d. | Mid. ditto 3s. 0d. to 3s. 4d.
Prime large 2s. 10d. to 3s. 2d. | Prime ditto 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.
Prime small 2s. 4d. to 3s. 6d. | Veal 3s. 4d. to 4s. 4d.
Large Pork 2s. 4d. to 3s. 4d. | Small Pork 3s. 6d. to 3s. 10d.
Lambs, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 8d.

HAY, SMITHFIELD, Sept. 7.—At per load of 36 trusses.

Coarse Meadow .. 75s. to 90s.	New Clover Hay .. 90s. to 120s.
New ditto	Old ditto
Useful Old ditto .. 95 .. 100	Oat Straw 26 .. 28
Fine Upland ditto 100 .. 108	Wheat Straw 28 .. 30

COTTON.

There has been but little demand for cotton, and much desire to sell it throughout this week. The market has closed heavily at a decline of 1d. to 1d. per lb. on American, and 1d. on all other sorts, except Sea Islands; these command rather higher prices in the coarse qualities than at the last public sale. 2,500 American have been taken for exportation; and the entire transactions comprise 24,900 bales.

WOOL.

The wool market is firm, colonial selling well at previous rates, and the consumption going on steadily. There is less doing for shipment, though the home trade is decidedly healthy. The imports of wool into London last week were 658 bales, viz., 533 from Germany, 130 from South America, and 5 from Jamaica.

COAL EXCHANGE, Sept. 9.

Stewart's, 22s. 6d.; Hetton's, 22s. 0d.; Braddyll's Hetton's, 22s. 6d. Ships arrived this week, 187.

GROCERIES.—TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10.

TEA.—In the absence of all public sales the market has a very firm appearance. Good common Congou is selling at 11½d. to 1s. per lb. Ordinary Twankay 1s. 9d. to 1s. 3d.

COFFEE.—There were not any public sales. By private contract several parcels of good ordinary Ceylon sold at 56s. per cwt.

SUGAR.—The trade bought more freely, and the total purchases amount to 800 hhds and tierces, including 150 hhds Barbadoes which were sold in public auction. Good to fine yellow fetched 60s. to 63s., middling to good middling 57s. to 59s. 6d. per cwt. The prices of refined goods have likewise improved, standard lumps selling at 74s. to 75s., and brown grocery at 73s. 6d. to 74s. per cwt.

PEPPER.—3,000 bags Malabar sold at firm rates. Good half-heavy fetched 3½d. to 3¾d.; grey 3½d. to 3¾d. per lb.

Advertisements.

TO be DISPOSED of immediately, a genteel Family **DRAPERY ESTABLISHMENT** in a good situation in LEICESTER. Capital required, from £500 to £700; the present proprietor about to be otherwise engaged. Satisfactory statements can be given.

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September 1st, 1844. JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary.

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BAPTIST CHAPEL, FOLKESTONE.

THE Christian Public are respectfully informed that it is proposed to spend £1,000 in the erection of a new Chapel at Folkestone. This was seriously contemplated about five years ago, and now that the local character of the town is completely changed, by the railroad, from a place of profound retirement into one of constant visitation and growing importance, it becomes indispensable to the interests of religion in that vicinity, that the project should be forthwith matured.

When it is stated that the present sanctuary was built in 1729—that it is only twenty-two feet wide, and, though it has galleries, only sixteen feet high—that it is too dilapidated to justify any repairation—surely the most scrupulous as to the necessity of new chapels will be fellow-helpers in the enterprise.

The members of the church are chiefly poor, but, though poor, both zealous and constant; as a proof of which, they commenced small subscriptions among themselves in 1839, which now amount to 200 guineas. They have an affectionate and acceptable pastor in the person of the Rev. D. Parkins; and 125 children have weekly instruction though they have no school room.

Divine Providence has kindly raised up a friend who will lend 500l., if it be required, free of interest for five years, should it be commenced this year, and many circumstances dictate an immediate effort.

May I, therefore, entreat your Christian consideration of the case, and the prompt transmission of promises or donations either to myself, or to the Rev. D. Parkins, Folkestone?

The cause is God's, and may his children favour it!

Ramsgate, August, 1844. J. MORTLOCK DANIELL.

P.S.—The desirableness of this step is felt by all the Ministers in the East Kent Association, and the Rev. Eustace Carey and Rev. John Aldis, of London, are acquainted with the present interest.

Contributions, either paid or promised, are respectfully and thankfully acknowledged.

Sums gradually collected at Folkestone since 1839	£219 5 6	Mr C. Vaines	1 0 0
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Mr Cannon	1 1 0	Mr Allen	1 1 0
Mr Collins	5 0 0	Mr T. Martin	1 1 0
Mr Benham	2 0 0	Mr Kemp	1 0 0
Mr Lowe, F.R.S.	5 0 0	Mr Coward	5 0 0
Mr W. B. Gurney	2 0 0	Mr Arnold	1 0 0
Mr Cartwright	1 0 0	Mr Fawcett	2 0 0
Mr W. L. Smith	2 0 0	Mr Collings	1 0 0
		Rev. E. Steane, D.D. ..	1 1 0
		Mrs Hall	1 0 0
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		Mrs Page	1 0 0
		Miss E. Brewin	2 0 0
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